

EDITORIAL

LUMINA's 29th volume features five interesting and genuine ideas that sprang from personal introspection to factual investigation. The journal sees its significance in examining our own individual experiences in life and how far we have come to self-realization, appreciation, or critical reflection of what is unfolding before us from past to present times.

The *Prologue* of Dr. William Spady's book, *Opening to Greater Realities: An Amazing Journey of Spiritual Awakening*, published in 2013, opens a well-pronounced existence of the spiritual dimension that covertly operates within and around us. The *Prologue* introduces a spiritual and metaphysical exploration framed as a dialogue between the author and what he calls his "Spirit Partners". It challenges readers to reconsider their assumptions about reality, identity, and divinity. It also implies that profound inner transformation is possible when one opens up to perspectives beyond the material and ego-centered understanding of life. In short, "How Did I Ever Get Here?" is not just a question of biography, but an invitation to contemplate the very nature of being and to recognize that, according to Spady's dialogue, we are far more than we think we are.

The *Essay Concerning Abulad, Globalization and Postmodern Ethos* presents a philosophical-political tone of inquiry, encouraging a reexamination of our understanding of globalization and its relation to postmodernism. Ismael P. Magadan, Jr., the author, attempts to explain and rationalize the socio-political and ethical-moral contexts and dilemmas of varying world views. He explored Peter Singer, Thomas Friedman, and Thomas Banchoff's views on globalization, and Romualdo Abulad's seminal essays on postmodernism. His work reflects a multidimensional analysis that centers on the intersectionality of globalization and postmodernism in light of technological progress, violence, and global suffering. The author cited Abulad's commendations on the moral grounds such as of Friedrich Nietzsche, Immanuel Kant, among others, which he used as basis for his insightful notion on the non-contradictory relationship between "postmodernism and the constellation of ethical theories"-- it presupposes man's freedom of choice without negating responsibility, and "respect" should be the core value to prevent ethical pluralism from compromising moral consensus and potentially shadowing peace, economy, and identity.

David J. Kendall article on *Life in the Wartime Parish: Accounts from the Parish Archives of Tagbilaran and Corella Before the Japanese Occupation of*

Bohol purposely focusing on parish archival sources to illustrate their relative importance and their eventual use in conjunction with other sources of information, such as those with the records from the City of Tagbilaran and the Municipality of Corella as well as their respective police and military record in an attempt to better understand the history of the Philippines and the Catholic Church during the World War II and shortly beyond. Comparing the data collected with other parish archival records in Mindanao, Luzon, and other parishes in the Visayas Islands revealed a pattern of disruption in people's lives and activities. There are suppressed gatherings for all occasions in this wartime period. Marriages and baptisms were encouraged and nurtured, whilst most deaths were senseless and preventable. For Kendall, "working in parish archives can be somewhat of a mind-altering experience."

Few artisanal culinary and beverage products have stood the test of time, in general. Most cultural menus are now prepared mechanically or somehow involve the use of metals, gas, and modern mechanisms. Even traditional kitchen cooks are now being replaced by the suave 'chefs' with degrees in culinary arts, who employ mechanized techniques. Noticeable among this sea of culinary modernization, though, is the use of ASIN TIBUOK of Albur (Albuquerque) in Bohol —an artisanal salt and its preparations. The core ideas, which Mark Steven A. Pandan and Kent Dexter Poquita discussed in their study, *Salt Making in the Visayas: A Review on Asin Tibuok Artisanal Salt*, are enough to warrant special attention from concerned government agencies to respond accordingly to avoid obliteration of these commendable cultural practices. Conservation of this time-tested salt production will constantly remind our Filipino society that localized intricate methods of our ancestors can bring honor even in kitchen rooms and are therefore worthy of cultural preservation, pedagogical integration, and economic promotion.

Lastly, the beauty of Bucas Grande extends beyond its white beaches, limestone caves, and strategic location (being at the front window to the Pacific Ocean); it is within its people and their local dialect. Although it is an island contiguous with the municipality of Socorro, Surigao del Norte, the language spoken on the island has somehow evolved to have its own tone and meaning, which differs from that widely used in the mainland. The study of Aiza B. Malto and Annabelle N. Diaz has characterized hundreds of these words, yet it needs further immersion for a more comprehensive scholarly detailing of the *Lexical Varieties of Bucas Grande Island*. This is, however, an attempt to roll the first cart going to that path.