

Origination and Proliferation of Names: Genealogy Making for Family History

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Abstract - It is fascinating to know how names came into existence. It revealed a rich series of chronicles that took place in order the first set of names were finally established. The first recorded name can be attributed to Adam as reflected in the holy bible, were other names emerged and evolved, through the course of time and the growing social interactions among men. This paper explored the history on how names came into existence and its significance in relating it to other names based on genetic characteristics and/or by affiliation. In the Philippines the evolution of names integrated the inclusion of surname only in 1849. This development was distributed in various parts of the country maintaining our Hispanic image in the same way our culture and beliefs were molded, more or less based on language and not by genetic characteristics. Names are not simply names. They reveals the history of being a part of a family and even the community. This is a historical research which aimed to provide key elements in understanding the history and evolution of names that took place. This will also serve as a guide on how to construct genealogy, commonly known as the family tree.

Keywords - Genealogy, Ancestry, Pedigree

INTRODUCTION

The origin of family names could be outlined as having undergone a long process. Family names came late even in the most advanced civilizations.

In a civilized era like today, it is hard to imagine how life is without a name. The mere fact that one has an incomplete name presents several difficulties. Though, some studies reveal that there are some groups that are still primitive in terms of the usage / assignment of complete name, that is, they only have the first name and no surnames at all.

The identification of names is very important especially in writing biographies, autobiographies or tracing a family history. The study is incomplete unless (1) the history of names is conducted and fulfilled; and (2) the lineage of the family members of the ancestral line and the descendants are fully identified.

Genealogy is the study of tracing names and its history. Expert on this field is called Genealogist. This paper will provide a step-by-step procedure on the conduct of a simple to comprehensive research on genealogy that will lead in the tracing of one's family tree, which may even direct to disclose secrets.

This paper provides brief account on the origin of names in the early history of man and later zero-in in the Philippines on how names came to being. The paper presented two sample genealogies that of (1) Jose Rizal and the other of (2) Jesus Christ.

In the Philippines, the Family History Center in Quezon City, The National Archives of the Philippines, Iglesia Filipina Independiente and Palacio Arzobispado in Intramuros are among those that maintain the records of the evolution and history of the names in the country. The Catholic Church (particularly the Vatican) is believed as one of those that hold the bulk of archival records of the history, origin and development of names. But due to their paramount objective of respecting every catholic's privacy, these data are kept on high restrictions even to researchers. For research purposes, government offices such as the civil registrar, hospitals and cemeteries may provide data on this endeavor. Other sources may include school record, diary, land titles, death certificates and medical records.

METHODOLOGY

This paper followed the historical method, and employed extensive and intensive archival research on records pertaining to names. It aimed to present various designs of genealogy creating pedigrees of linking a character (person) with the rest of family members.

Interviews and field visit to cemetery were also conducted as part of the data gathering procedure. A pedigree was created to show a better picture of the family tree. A pedigree or family tree is significant in tracing a family history, its origin and relationship which may be beneficial in claiming inheritance, and tracing disorders in the family that may be passed from one generation to the next. The paper is limited to explaining you how names developed. Pedigree in genealogy is presented through symbols as shown below.

LEGEND: Kinship diagramming of symbols and conventions



This method may be very tedious; contemporary genealogists prefer to use available software's for their pedigree. "Genealogy software includes tons of easy-to-use tools that will help you discover and organize your research. Organizational tools link people together based on relationships, merge individuals into family trees, help spot problems and locate duplicate entries. This software will also aid in the search for individuals and entire families.¹ One may also log on to <http://www.familysearch.org/eng/default.asp> as a source engine in tracing one's own family members. A genealogy must not only contain names, other data should be included such as dates and place of births and place and date of deaths.

DISCUSSION

The Study of Names

“Early ethnographers developed genealogical notation to deal with principles of kinship, descent and marriage, which are the social building blocks of non-industrial cultures” (Kottak, 1991.26). The Genealogical Method is a procedure by which ethnographers discover and record connection of kinship, descent and marriage using diagrams and symbols (Ibid, 32). Genealogy is the study of family lineage, early times knowledge about their ancestors and lineage strengthens their position and religious status in the community. It became as basis for their inheritance, positions and affiliations.

Genealogy before was of a mixture of mythology, oral tradition and fiction. History tells that genealogy would often associate themselves to God, making God as their ancestors, in order to establish certain iconic stature in the community or the empire at large. Genealogy also became as the basis of other societies for the prevention of blood-related marriages or it may be for the transfer of power from parents to child preferably to the eldest son and so on. Genealogy is an essential aspect of the Mormon faith so family relationship can continue beyond grave.

Primitive societies organized into clans and tribes often associate their ancestors to gods, legendary heroes or animals. Israel (Holy Bible), Greeks and Romans constructed early genealogies. Genealogy later was associated to power, rank and property used by Sumerians, Babylonians, Egyptians and Chinese (Grolier, 1998. vol. ix.79).

Pedigree is a record of ancestors of a human, animal or plant presented in chart form, the record provides genetic information about individuals in the pedigree. Human pedigrees are used in genetic counseling. Pedigrees sometimes can predict certain characteristics about an offspring such as eye or hair color, size or even sex (Encyclopedia Americana, 2002. vol. xxi, 593). A family tree refers to a genealogy “the study of the history of past and present members of a particular family, which usually includes the preparation of a “family tree” or pedigree chart.

This shows the past and present members of the family joined

together by a series of lines that help in ascertaining their relationship to each other, and the location, documentation and recording of a family history, including stories about the personal lives of individual members of the family, sometimes even including pictures of these individuals or family groups."²

Genealogists are archive researchers who trace and develop chart lines of descent and family trees using based on various public and private records, such as court records, original tax books and immigration records.

Typical activities include (1) determining the line of enquiry and initiating, supervising and participating in the research; (2) creating a plan for intended research; (3) reporting to clients and suggesting further paths for research; (4) visiting archives, county courthouses, libraries, churches and other places where public records are kept; (5) compiling genealogical reports, which often contain charts, photographs, copies of documents, audiotapes of interviews, and resources to find out more information and (6) attending workshops, lectures and training sessions on genealogical methodology and research techniques."³ Genealogy was an oral tradition and only in the 16th century it became very important in Europe as basis for legal inheritance (Encyclopedia Americana, 2002. vol. xxi, 380-381). Genealogy is very relevant to history, law, anthropology, sociology and eugenics.

Origin of Names

Literature in history, anthropology and sociology commonly agreed that, it was only between 11th and 12th centuries the people of Europe began using surnames.⁴ In many cultures where male is a dominant figure (patronymic) the male surname is adopted, except metronymic cultures, where females are the dominant figure.

Occupational titles were also used as surnames such as positions in courts, military and honors. The name of the place (topographic/geographical) was also dominant as surname particularly during biblical time such as Jesus of Nazareth.

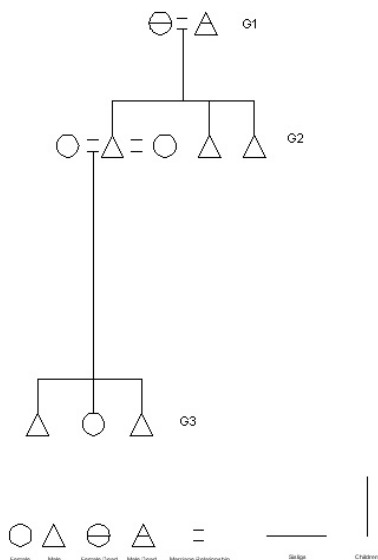
Some societies make use of weather condition, calamities and natural phenomena as surnames. There was a time in Europe where kings and religious officials were the one declaring/ issuing surnames

among illiterates with no apparent reason or explanation at all.

Spelling and pronunciation of names evolved centuries after and across cultures as a natural order of the social change.⁵ In ancient Rome, there are three to four names; forename, clan name, family name and honorary name. In western practices the family name or surname appears last (last name), but in many Asian countries the family name appears first (Grolier, 1998.10).

“Anthropologists must record genealogical data to reconstruct history and understand current relationship” (Kottak, 1991.26). This is to uncover historical events that may have shaped or changed our story and our history.

Standard Symbols and Conventions on Kinship and Diagramming



Above is a hypothetical representation of the standard symbols and conventions on kinship and diagramming is the most common genealogy structure use by anthropologists and ethnographers. Generation One (G1) indicates female (deceased) having marital relationship with male (deceased). From Generation One (G1) they

have three children showing generation two (G2), three males, the eldest of the males married twice or into marital relationship twice. From G2, the eldest among siblings has three children, male, female and male.

Philippine Natives and the Contemporary

Long before the Spaniards set foot on the shores of the Philippines, natives generally did not adopt/ acquire their respective family names similar to the European system. The middle class natives or literate have used surnames as revealed by their academic records in the University of Santo Tomas (1611).

Illiterate natives who do not have their surnames just drew the symbol “cross” on whatever documents or transaction papers. This led to the idea of adopting surname Juan dela Cruz. The absence of surnames was actually present among the illiterate members of the society; however, middle classes have their respective surnames.

The names of the natives generally adopted from flora and fauna but were later changed by the Spaniards during baptism by adopting names of saints.⁶

The general population of the Philippines even today believed that Filipino names of Spanish sounds or similarities is a byproduct of natives intermarriages with the Spaniards in the early 16th century. It was also believed that Christianized natives in the Philippines especially those carrying Spanish surnames are of Spanish origin. However, research revealed that only a fraction of the population married Spanish soldiers and the remaining population having Spanish surnames were simply products of the Claveria list. The only string that binds Spaniards and the Filipinos is religion and culture. The Spanish bloodline is no where to be found in the general population.

Older generation in the Philippines opt to adopt names of saints being a predominantly Catholic country such as Juan as St. John, Maria as Mother Mary, Jesus as Jesus Christ and Jose as St. Joseph. They may have two or three names and certainly the name of the saint is attached to it such as Maria Clarisa, Juan Miguel and Jose Vicente. This was through the influence of the Spanish teachings. The coming of the Americans saw a transition of adopting names first, the blending of

Spanish and American influence as part of the transition such as Joseph instead of Jose, Mary instead of Maria and John instead of Juan. These Christian names being a reflection of sainthood are influenced by the Spaniards but only of an American translation.

The Bulletin 9 of the Bureau of Education (1915) provides a list of Philippine Baptismal names compiled by E.E. Schneider. It shows the shift of names from Spanish to English as a source of social history (Ocampo, 2010.36). It is based on Roman Martyrology and the Catholic saints, feast and solemnities (Ibid.42). This was largely because of Spanish influence. The Post American Occupation names shifted from sainthood to American popular culture as influenced by Hollywood characters.

Today, names come in various forms. It may be a combination of parent's name, places, events, objects or weird objects, symbols and representation ranges from medicine tablets, numbers, spellings with different sound/ pronunciation which may or may not have meaning. But, generally, experts say, names reflect the social history in accordance to the time, places and events.

The Claveria List

It was through the effort of Narciso Claveria y Zaldua (Governor General of the Philippines on July 16, 1844 until December 26, 1849) issued the royal decree on the distribution and implementation of surnames to the natives of the Philippines on November 21, 1849 (Decree of 21 November 1849). Gov. Claveria brought Spanish names to the Philippines and the natives were given either the privilege to choose or simply awarded to them.⁷ The list of produced and approved family names can be referred from the "*Catalogo Alfabetico de Apellidos*". This decree (reprinted in Spanish below) may be translated as follows:

Claveria declared "Having heard the testimonies of the Most Reverend Bishops, the Reverend Provincials of the religious orders, and the Honorable Assessor General of the Government, I hereby order"⁸:

1. A copy of the printed catalogue of surnames, previously prepared for this purpose, shall be remitted to all the heads of provinces of these islands.

2. These officials shall assign to every town, in accordance with the number of families therein, the number of surnames that appear necessary, taking care that the distribution be made by letters, in the appropriate proportions.
3. Having thus formed the catalogues corresponding to each town, the head of the province shall send these to the respective parish priests for distribution to the cabeceras (barangays); this distribution shall be carried out with the help of the gobernadorcillo, another municipal official, and two competent and respected principales. Each cabeza shall be present with the individuals of this cabecera, and the father or oldest person of each family shall choose or be assignea one of the surnames in the list, which he shall then adopt, together with his direct descendants.
4. Natives of Spanish, indigenous, or Chinese origin who already have a surname may retain it and pass it on to their descendants.
5. Children whose fathers are dead shall be given the surname of the paternal grandfather, and in the absence of this, the surname of the brothers or relatives of their father, thus avoiding unnecessary multiplicity and ensuring that those of the same family branch shall have the same surname.
6. The children of unknown fathers shall be given the surnames of the mother, and if this is also unknown, the surnames of the guardian, or baptismal sponsor, or of the parish priest in case the sponsor does not allow it.
7. In the lists that will be made for the cabeceras, in order to complete the register later, each person shall indicate (a) his baptismal name, followed by the new surname which may be assigned to him, and (b) the name which, until then may have served him as surname, leaving him free to retain this as long as he wishes.
8. To avoid confusion which might result to the prejudice of those who with their surnames inherited from his majesty certain benefits, the names of Lacandola, Mojica, Tupas, and Raja Matanda shall not be adopted except by those who have a just title to posses them.
9. Families who can prove that they have kept for four generations their surname, even though it may be the name of a saint, but not those

like de la Cruz, de los Santos, and some others which are so numerous that they would continue producing confusion, may pass them on to their descendants, the Reverend fathers and the heads of provinces are advised to use their judgment in the implementation of this article.

10. Having notified the elders or parents of the new surname which corresponds to them and to the members of the family, that is, all those who because of their close relationship should bear the surname, each barangay shall be assigned two or three days for any objections which may be made before the parish priest; the latter will act on these objections in accordance with the provision of this superior decree.

11. School teachers shall have a register of all the children attending school, with their names and surnames, and shall see to it that they shall not address or know each other except by the surname listed in the register which should be that of the parent's. In case of lack of enthusiasm in compliance with this order, the teachers shall be punished in proportion to the offense at the discretion of the head of the province.

12. The heads of the families shall make known their new surnames to their children who may be absent, in addition to the notification that shall be furnished by the gobernadorcillo or the gobernadorcillo of the town in which the absent relative is residing. For this purpose they will form official expedients or specific communications to this effect, signed by the gobernadorcillo and the respective cabezas with the approval of the parish priest. Likewise they shall remit to the head of the province a list of the names of individuals in the service of the army to whom a surname has been assigned, so that the said provincial head may inform the branches of the army, and the surname which corresponds to each soldier may be recorded in his personnel file.

13. For record purposes, the gobernadorcillo of each town shall keep a list of the individuals who, by virtue of the preceding article, have been informed of the surnames which they are to use.

14. In Towns where the residents were born in other places where their families still reside, the gobernadorcillo, without prejudice to the provisions above, shall send a list of their names to the gobernadorcillo of the towns from which they had come, so that on the one hand there may be no alternation or delay in transmitting the surnames which correspond to each one, and on the other there may be unnecessary

duplication. It adds to the confusion to assign a surname to individuals who should adopt that of the family from which they are descended, and no other.

15. The Cabeceras in each town shall be numbered, starting from one and so forth; all classes of people in them shall be enrolled, natives as well as mestizos, no matter what their occupations may be, such circumstances being duly recorded.

16. Once the list of the cabeceras are finalized and approved by the reverend parish priest, a register for each of them shall be prepared so that by assembling all of these, a general register for each town will result, signed by the *gobernadorcillo* and approved by the parish priest, following the customary practice for the annual inventories of the provinces; three copies thereof shall be prepared, one to serve as a master copy in the parish, another to be conserved by the head of the province in the archives, and the third to be sent to the heads of families.

The family names played a significant role under the Spanish system. It organized the political system of the country in terms of *cedula* or community tax, population distribution and monitoring the population for government records and correspondence.

In contrast, Filipino descendants of rajahs and noble men were given the option to keep their names. Among the clans, who were also exempted from forced labor and paying taxes under the Spanish rule, were the Lakandulas, Solimans, Gatmaitans, Gatbontons, Salongas, Layas, Lapias, Macapagals, Salamats, Manuguits, Balinguits, Banals, Kalaws, among others.

Claveria's contribution to the development of Philippine genealogy was of necessity for our identity and eventually ushered maturity to the civil society, be they of the middle class or of lower economic status or educational attainment.⁹

The Role of Family History Center¹⁰

The origins of the Family History Library can be traced to the founding of the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) in 1894. Its main

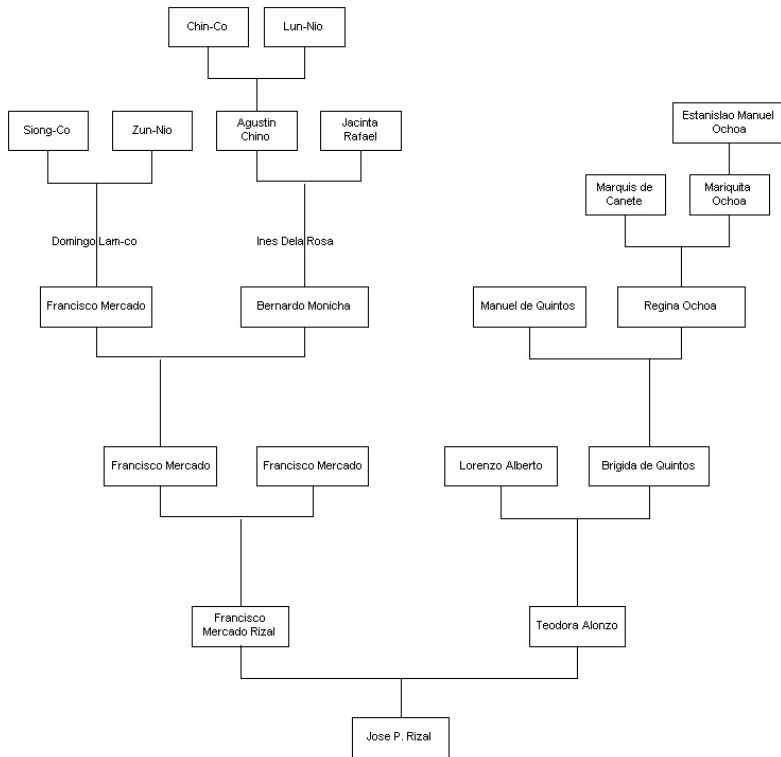
purpose is to fulfill one of the Latter Day Saints Church fundamental tenets: that deceased family members, especially ancestors, can be baptized by proxy into the LDS church, as well as receive other saving ordinances. However, this practice is controversial and the transmission of records has been opposed by the Holy Office and Catholic dioceses around the world, who accounted for approximately one billion baptismal certificates.

The GSU library is in Granite Mountain in Salt Lake City, Utah, where the headquarters of the Latter Day Saints (LDS) Church are located. It is the largest genealogical library in the world. Granite Mountain is a mass of solid rock in Salt Lake City, Utah where the library is located. Despite its name, Granite Mountain is primarily composed of quartz monzonite, an igneous rock similar to granite in appearance, physical characteristics, and chemical composition. This is the same material used to construct the Salt Lake Temple and the facade of the LDS Conference Center.

The Granite Mountain Records Vault (also known simply as The Vault) is a large archive and vault owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints excavated 600 feet. The Granite Mountain facilities feature a dry, environment-controlled facility used for long-term record storage, as well as administrative offices, shipping and receiving docks, a processing facility and restoration laboratory for microfilm.

The Genealogy of Jose Rizal¹¹

Dr. Jose Rizal is the national hero of the Philippines; his family name was originally named as Mercado meaning market. Don Francisco Mercado went over to the list of family names issued by Claveria he did not like the names listed. He decided to use Rizal from the word Ricial meaning rice field to be attached to the name of Jose as his family name. Jose later carried the family name as Rizal, the only child of the 11 children of Don Francisco to carry the family name Rizal for security protection against the Spanish government. The genealogy of Jose Rizal covers six generations is ancestral in structure, and traces his ancestors rather than his descendants.



Bahay Tsinoy, Kaisa Herity Center
Intramuros, Manila

The Genealogy of Jesus Christ¹²

The genealogy of Jesus Christ follows the ancestral structure (meaning tracing its roots, opposite of this is descendants from Jesus to contemporary if applicable). The genealogy is biblical in nature and the data is base from Luke 3:23-38 courtesy of the Family History Center –Church of the Latter Day Saints Philippine Temple in Quezon City Philippines. Observe the flow of entries in the pedigree, G represents the number of generations traced or discovered linking all ancestors of Jesus, it has a total of 78 generations. The entries on the pedigree listed only the male figures/ characters showing son-father relationship (patrilineal).

GENERATION (G)	NAMES	Notes
G1	God	Origin/ father of Adam
G2	Adam	Son of God
G3	Seth	Son of Adam
G4	Enos	Son of Seth
G5	Cainan	Son of Enos
G6	Meleleel	Son of Cainan
G7	Jered	Son of Meleleel
G8	Enoch	Son of Jered
G9	Mathusala	Son of Enoch
G10	Lamech	Son of Mathusala
G11	Noe	Son of Lamech
G12	Sem	Son of Noe
G13	Arpharao	Son of Sem
G14	Cainan	Son of Arpharao
G15	Sala	Son of Cainan
G16	Heber	Son of Sala
G17	Phalec	Son of Heber
G18	Ragau	Son of Phalec
G19	Saruch	Son of Ragau
G20	Nachor	Son of Saruch
G21	Chara	Son of Nachor
G22	Abraham	Son of Chara
G23	Isaac	Son of Abraham
G24	Jacob	Son of Isaac
G25	Juda	Son of Jacob
G26	Phares	Son of Juda
G27	Estom	Son of Phares
G28	Aram	Son of Estom
G29	Aminadab	Son of Aram
G30	Naasson	Son of Aminadab
G31	Salmon	Son of Naasson
G32	Booz	Son of Salmon
G33	Obed	Son of Booz
G34	Jesse	Son of Obed
G35	David	Son of Jesse
G36	Nathan	Son of David
G37	Mattatha	Son of Nathan
G38	Menan	Son of Mattatha
G39	Melea	Son of Menan
G40	Eliakim	Son of Melea
G41	Jonan	Son of Eliakim
G42	Joseph	Son of Joseph
G43	Juda	Son of Joseph

G44	Simeon	Son of Juda
G45	Levi	Son of Simeon
G46	Matthat	Son of Levi
G47	Jorim	Son of Matthat
G48	Eliezer	Son of Jorim
G49	Jose	Son of Eliezer
G50	Er	Son of Jose
G51	Elmodam	Son of Er
G52	Cosam	Son of Elmodam
G53	Addi	Son of Cosam
G54	Melchi	Son of Addi
G55	Neri	Son of Melchi
G56	Salathiel	Son of Neri
G57	Zorobabel	Son of Salathiel
G58	Rhesa	Son of Salathiel
G59	Joanna	Son of Rhesa
G60	Juda	Son of Joanna
G61	Joseph	Son of Juda
G62	Semei	Son of Joseph
G63	Mattathias	Son of Semei
G64	Maath	Son of Mattathias
G65	Nagge	Son of Maath
G67	Esli	Son of Nagge
G68	Nahum	Son of Esli
G69	Amos	Son of Nahum
G70	Mattathias	Son of Amos
G71	Joseph	Son of Mattathias
G72	Janna	Son of Joseph
G73	Melchi	Son of Janna
G74	Levi	Son of Melchi
G75	Matthat	Son of Levi
G76	Heli	Son of Matthat
G77	Joseph	Son of Heli
G78	Jesus	Son of Joseph

Concluding Note

It is of no doubt that in writing family history, the genealogy or the pedigree created is a central element in understanding the family origin and the relationship of each of the characters. However, the genealogy has its limitation depending upon the availability of the data or information. The paper suggested various sources in getting the information other than government records. One may look in

cemeteries, directories, written files or by referral. It would be pleasing to know if everyone considers that a genealogy is necessary to preserve our family history and story for the next generation. Scholars and enthusiasts in making the genealogy of various characters or personalities made significant contribution in the field of humanities and social sciences such as knowing the ancestry which substantiated our hunger in knowing their past and their personalities. The Genealogy is being used as basis in claiming inheritance, recognition as a family member, genetic defects and many others since then and today. This brought us to the conclusion that using genealogy in writing history is indeed a necessity in understanding family origin. The coming of Narciso Claveria Y Zaldua was a blessing in giving us identity in order to establish the fundamental structure of a Philippine society first, having our surnames.

(Endnotes)

¹<http://genealogy-software-review.toptenreviews.com/> Accessed July 07, 2010

²<http://glossary.adoption.com/genealogy.html/> Accessed July 07, 2010

³http://ww2.prospects.ac.uk/p/types_of_job/genealogist_job_description.jsp/ accessed July 07, 2010

⁴http://surnames.behindthename.com/glossary/view/family_name/ accessed June 01, 2010

⁵<http://www.intl-research.com/surname.htm/> Accessed June 01, 2010

⁶Domingo Abella, director of Bureau of Records and Management (BRM) an introductory note to “Catalogo Alfabetico de Apellidos”, National Archives of the Philippines (NA). P. VII: “The Spanish surnames of many Filipinos have often misled foreigners here and abroad, who are unaware of the decree on the adoption of surnames issued by Governor-General Narciso Claveria in 1849. Until quite

recently in the United States, The Filipinos were classified in demographic statistics as a "Spanish-speaking minority," along with Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Mexicans, and other nationals of the central or South American republics. The Philippines, as is well known, was a Spanish colony when Spain was mistress of empires in the Western Hemisphere, but the Americans were "hispanized" demographically, culturally, and linguistically, in a way the Philippines never was. Yet the Spanish surnames of the Filipinos today-Garcia, Gomez, Gutierrez, Fernandez-seem to confirm the impression of the American statistician, as well as of the American tourist, that the Philippines is just another Mexico in Asia. Nor is this misunderstanding confined to the United States; most Spaniards still tend to think "Las Islas Filipinas." As a country united to them through the language of Cervantes, and they catalogue Philippine studies under "Hispano America."

⁷Catalogos Alpabeticos de Apellidos, courtesy of the National Archives of the Philippines. vii-viii: "Somehow overlooked, this decree, with the Catalogo Alfabetico de Apellidos which accompanied it, accounts for another curiosity which often intrigues both Filipinos and foreign visitors alike, namely, that there are towns in which all the surnames of the people begin with the same letter. This is easily verifiable today in parts of the country. For example, in the Bikol region, the entire alphabet is laid out like a garland over the provinces of Albay, Sorsogon, and Catanduanes, which in 1849 belonged to the single jurisdiction of Albay. Today's lists of municipal officials, memorials to local heroes, even business or telephone directories, also show that towns where family begins with a single letter are not uncommon. Thus, the minor misinformation of the foreigners about the "Spanish-speaking" Philippines, and the confusion of the Filipinos themselves about their "one-letter" towns both stem from a decree which ironically was intended to end the "confusion in the administration of justice, government, finance and public order.""

⁸From the words of Narciso Claveria, excerpt from "Catalogo Alfabetico de Apellidos", National Archives of the Philippines (NA), P. x; "During my visit to the majority of the provinces of these islands, I observed that the natives in general lack individual surnames

which distinguished them by families. They arbitrarily adopt the names of saints, and these results in the existence of thousands of individuals having the same surname. Likewise, I saw the resultant confusion with regard to the administration of justice, government, finance, and public order, and the far-reaching moral, civil and religious consequences to which this might lead, because the family names are not transmitted from the parents to their children, so that it is sometimes impossible to prove the degrees of consanguinity for purposes of marriage, rendering useless the parochial books which in Catholic countries are used for all kinds of transactions. For this purpose a catalogue of family names has been compiled, including the indigenous names collected by the Reverend Fathers Provincial of the religious orders, and the Spanish surnames they have been able to acquire, along with those furnished by the vegetable and mineral kingdoms, geography, arts, etc. in view of the extreme usefulness and practicality of this measure, the time has come to issue a directive for the formation of a civil register, which may not only fulfill and ensure the said objectives, but may also serve as the basis for the statistics of the country, guarantee the collection of taxes, the regular performance of personal services, and the receipt of payment for exemptions. It likewise provides exact information of the movement of the population, thus avoiding unauthorized migrations, hiding taxpayers, and other abuses.”

⁹ Domingo Abella, director of Bureau of Records and Management an introductory note to “Catalogo Alfabetico de Apellidos”, National Archives of the Philippines (NA). P. viii-ix “Lieutenant General Narciso Claveria y Zaldua was born in Gerona, but he lived in Vizcaya. On 16 July 1844, he arrived as Governor and Captain General of the Philippines. He also the Vice-Patron of the Church and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces in the Philippines. He was the best type of the class of the Spanish colonialist, a true caballero, a gentleman in every sense of the word, one who could alleviate tensions rather than exacerbate them, honest,

hardworking, and more interested in the welfare of the colony than in his personal fortune.

In response to the problems he uncovered in his travels, Claveria issued numerous decrees that long outlived him. The best known among them is the decree of 5 October 1847 on the election of gobernadorcillos and other local officials, which remained in force until the Maura reforms in the 1890s.

Perhaps the best measure of Claveria's passion for order was the decree of 16 August 1844 rectifying the Philippine calendar which had been "out of joint" for nearly three hundred years.

Claveria, in consultation with the archbishop, removed this anomaly by announcing that December 30 (Monday), 1844 be immediately followed by January 1 (Wednesday) 1845. At least on the calendar the Philippines again became part of Asia."

¹⁰<http://www.familysearch.org/eng/default.asp>/Accessed February 01, 2010

¹¹Rizal's Genealogy courtesy of Bahay Tsinoy Museum, Intramuros, Manila, Philippines. Note that Jose Rizal had a baby boy but died (because of premature) and he died in 1896 leaving his wife Josephine Bracken with out a child.

¹²Data courtesy of Family History Center, Church of Latter Day Saints Manila Temple, Quezon City, Philippines/ File paper.

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