



LET'S UNITE THE COMMUNITY
AND GO FORWARD

filipino

mirror

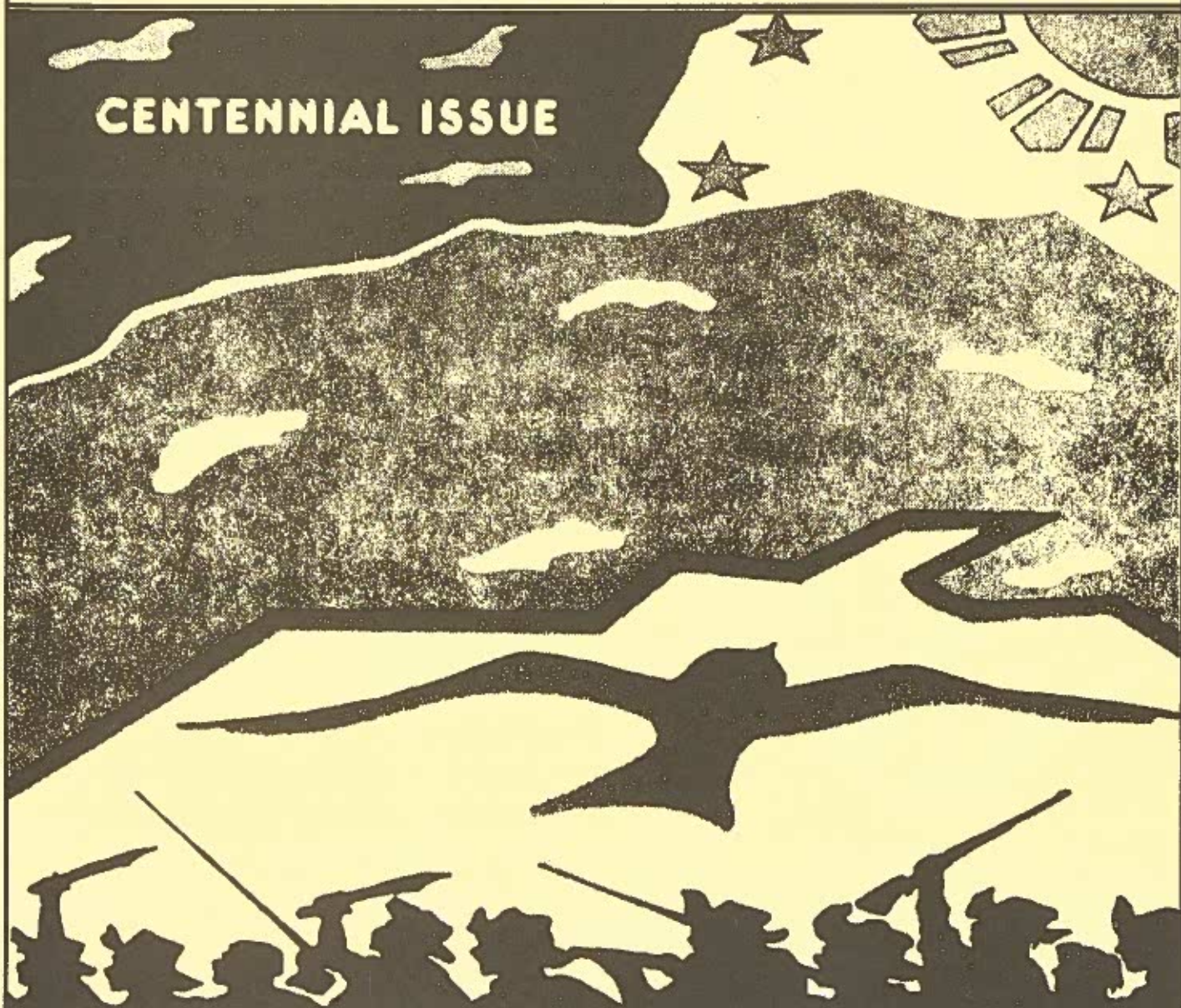
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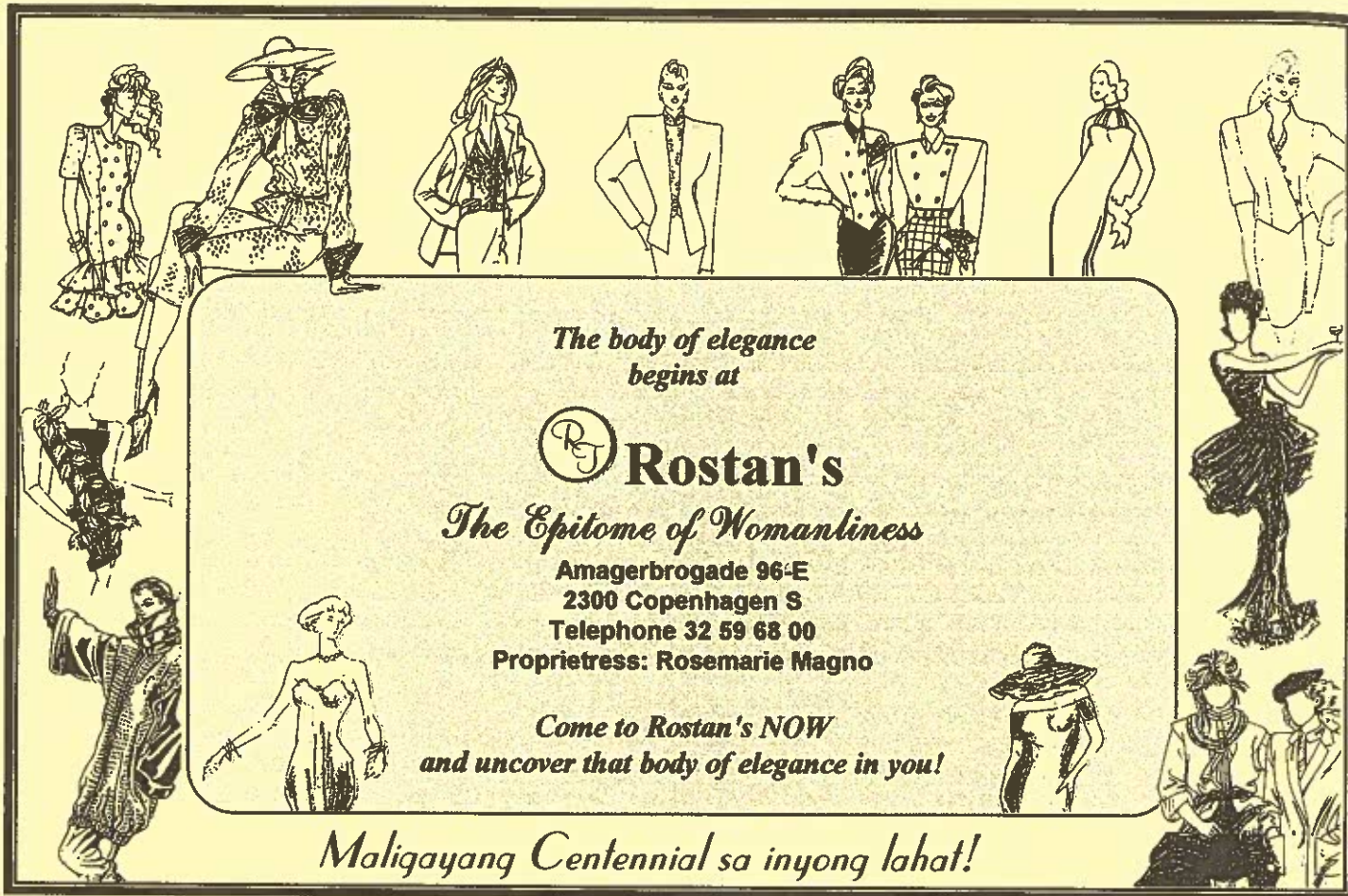
September 1998

CENTENNIAL ISSUE



Freedom is the essence of nationhood.

Josce Rizal



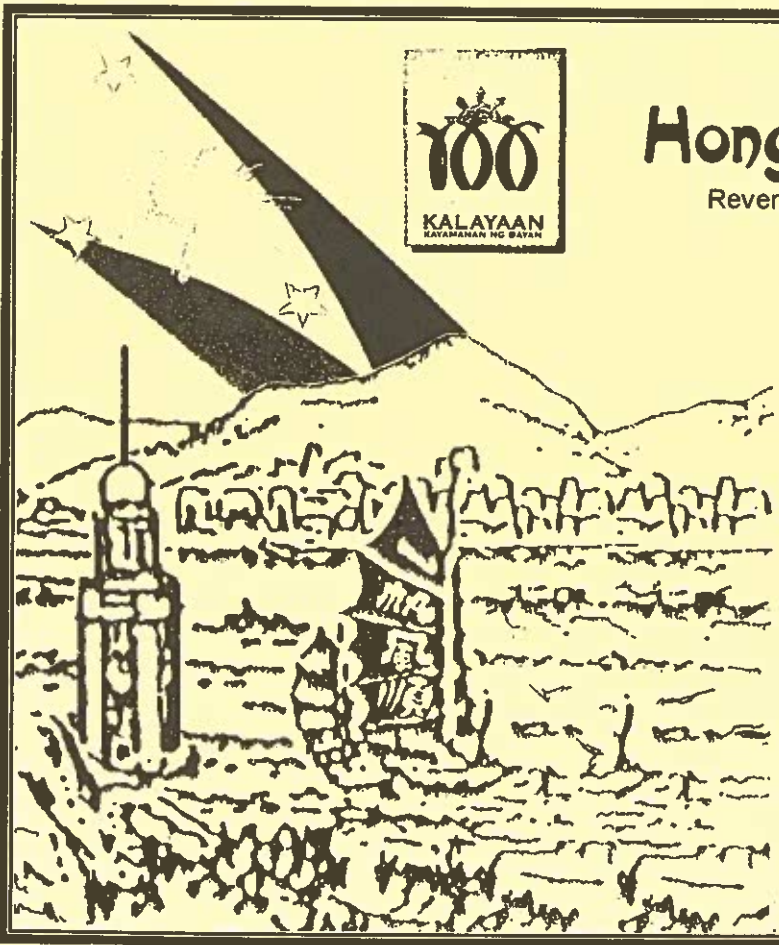
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filipino mirror

the official organ of the **BAYANIHAN CENTER FOR FILIPINO MIGRANTS-DENMARK®**

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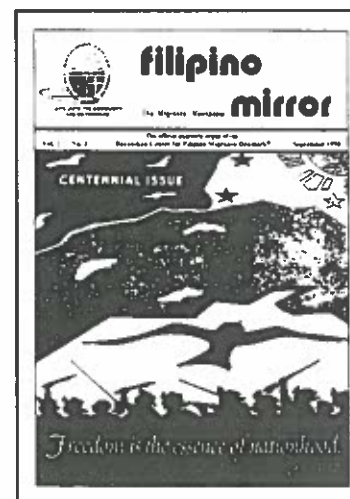
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the why of the cover

The Philippine Centennial is a celebration of our glorious past, present and future. Not only is it a celebration of our forebears' emancipation from the tyranny of colonialism, but it is also a celebration of their transformation into the incipient republic that emerged in Kawit, Cavite one hundred years ago.

Today, the Centennial is a celebration of our re-learning the values of those historical struggles and using them for future development, making us into citizens not only of an independent and proud nation but of the world as well. No matter what, where and when, our love for freedom, the essence of nationhood, will never wane.

Taong 1898. Isang napakahalagang kabanata sa makulay na kasaysayan ng ating lahi. Isang yugtong nagbigay-patunay na ang mga Pilipino kapag nagsama-sama sa pagkamit ng isang layunin ay nagtatagumpay - isang katotohanan at katangiang likas na diwang Pilipino.

From the President's Desk

Let's sing our song...
and be the hero in us!



No other event in the history of the Philippines can approximate the full significance of that stirring moment one hundred years ago when our forebears gathered in Kawit, Cavite to declare with one heart and one voice our independence from the yoke of colonial tyranny.

In so doing, we became more than a collection of tribes, more than a chorus of many voices. We became, in spirit and reality, a nation: a people united in diversity.

If we are to give meaning to this momentous occasion in our life as a community, then we must acknowledge our duty of enriching the precious gifts of freedom and identity. Not only must we honor the heroics of the past but so must we reaffirm among ourselves their noble ideas. *Kailangan nating isabuhay ang mga diwang kanilang naiwan.* Through our own ways and actions, we must proudly add our corresponding share and achieve greatness... greatness in terms of how well we care for one another, how well we care in building our Filipino community in Denmark.

One of the basic elements in building a community is a common goal. But even as we develop a common dream or a common vision that will unite us, we need to accept the fact that we are different from one another. We need to understand that though we all come from the same country, we may not share the same

opinion and may vary in our reactions and approaches. We have our own diversity.

How could we in our diversity help build a dynamic and responsive community? One way to look at our differences positively is to compare our emerging community to a new choir. If the choir is to make the most endearing mu-

collective capabilities, and cooperation in positive and constructive endeavors.

Let's bewail the prevalence of misplaced suspicions, widespread rumor-mongering, continued distrust and crab mentality among us.

Let's turn sarcasm and hate, the ingredients of conflict prevailing in our commu-

nity today, into the cement of kindness and understanding.

As we rekindle the spirit of 1898, let's thank God and our heroes, from Jose Rizal to Benigno Aquino, from whom we owe our freedom. Let's also remember other heroes of our time who fight another type of battle - the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who sell or mortgage their small properties to be able to go abroad and sustain their families

weighed down by the economic crisis. Defying the ghastly heat of the Middle East or braving the waves of the worldwide seas, our unsung heroes trade their talents to have a better standard of living which seems very remote if they just stay back home in the Philippines. Thus, they not only help and support their families left behind, but it is their blood, sweat and tears which sustain the country's economy during the worst of times.

As we, Filipinos here in Denmark, look back with pride at our forefathers who transformed our country into the incipient republic one hundred years ago, and at the OFWs whose sacrifices and contributions help bail out the country's economy during crisis, let's gather ourselves once more, and hand in hand, let's make our own push towards a new century of nationhood. Whatever our forebears and our unsung heroes were, we too can be - in our own way, in our own time and in our own place.

With the past as a guiding inspiration, let our collective spirit go into every song sung. Let each one of us surge forward with a firm resolve that each shares one's voice and tune, links one's effort and dreams; and merges all these into one song... one common song... our song.

Let's have faith in ourselves and in individual and

Let us all sing our song and be the hero in us! ❀



BCFM celebrates Pista ng Kalayaan

When it comes to celebrating, nobody beats the Pinoys. And this year, here and abroad, marks one of the grandest celebrations in the annals of Philippine history.

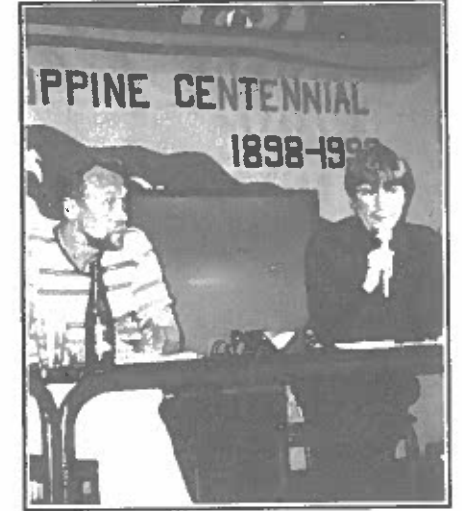
The Bayanihan Center for Filipino Migrants-Denmark, bound by its commitment to help meaningfully commemorate the centennial of Philippine independence, spearheaded a free-entrance celebration dubbed *Buhay Pinoy* at the *Gimle Medborgerhuset* in Amager last 15 August.

Buhay Pinoy paid tribute to the centenary spirit with an exhibit which bears witness to the unfolding of our country's history at the lobby.

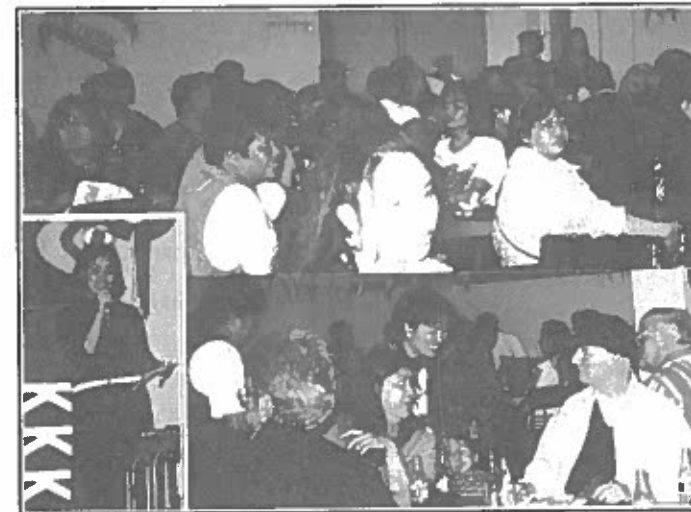
The Philippine Flag, the most beautiful, visible and tangible work of valor that has been handed to us by our forefathers, was the main feature on stage along with a centenary banner and a bank of revolutionary flags.

Complimenting the Bayanihan's lined-up activities was a well selected Filipino fare

and traditional dishes and delicacies from the food stalls of Bang Dicay, Leonor Kris-tensen and Belen Anin, which indeed served as a further source of enjoyment for all. ❀



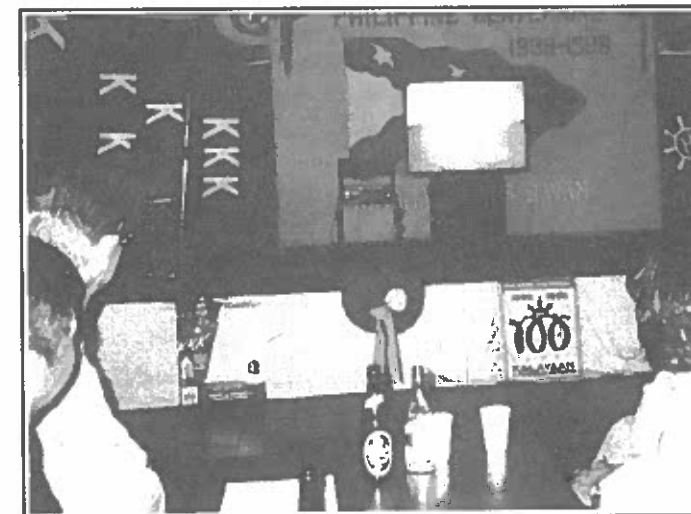
Consul Marie Isleta talks on Filipino culture and traditions. BCFM Advisers Einer Lydych and Jesper Jørgensen answer inquiries on migrant issues.



Filipinos from Copenhagen and suburbs treating themselves at the BCFM's *Buhay Pinoy*. Inset is Amihan Valenzuela emceeing the day's program.



Above photo shows Babaylan member Rose Venning doing a Muslim number. Lower photo: Harana Award winners Elmer Baguio (right) and Heidi Escandor (left) exhibiting once more their singing talents.



FILM SHOWING. Video tapes exemplify the different culture and traditions which the Pinoys carry with them wherever they go and wherever they are.





PARLOR GAMES. The children on stage anxious to start zeroing the bottle on the floor with a ballpen hanging from their waist.



Siony Petersen (right), all smile with a sack of rice on her shoulder, poses for a souvenir photo together with Pat Valenzuela, BCFM Vice President.

HARANA AWARDS '98: A Centennial Project of MABUHAY ORGANIZATION OF THE FILIPINOS



Top Left Photo: BCFM member Oscar Trinidad receives his prizes for winning first in the recent concluded songfest. Right: Gil Jumawan singing "Giliw." Lower Photo: The contestants are called on stage to receive certificates of appreciation. Inset is Jun Malveda Jr., Over-all Coordinator of the Harana Award.

Participating Organizations

- Babaylan
- Bayanihan Center for Filipino Migrants-DK
- Damayan
- DFA
- Eagle Bowling Club
- Filipino Association of Denmark
- Mabuhay Organization of Filipinos
- Maharlika
- Radyo Pinoy
- Sports Club Manila

**PCCD ACTIVITIES
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1998**

27 October
Philippine Music: Concerts
Borups Højskole
National Museum
St. Anne's Church

November
Filipino Filmfest
Filmhouse

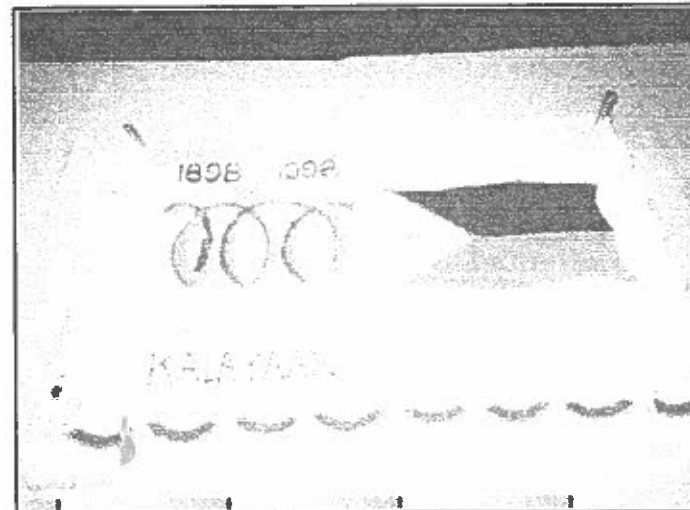
December
Paskuhan
National Museum
St. Anne's Church

12 December
Centennial Christmas
Scandic Copenhagen Hotel



ANNUAL HARANA AWARD

**CENTENNIAL GALA NIGHT AT SCANDIC COPENHAGEN HOTEL ON 20 JUNE
FILIPINOS IN FOCUS AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM ON 21 JUNE**



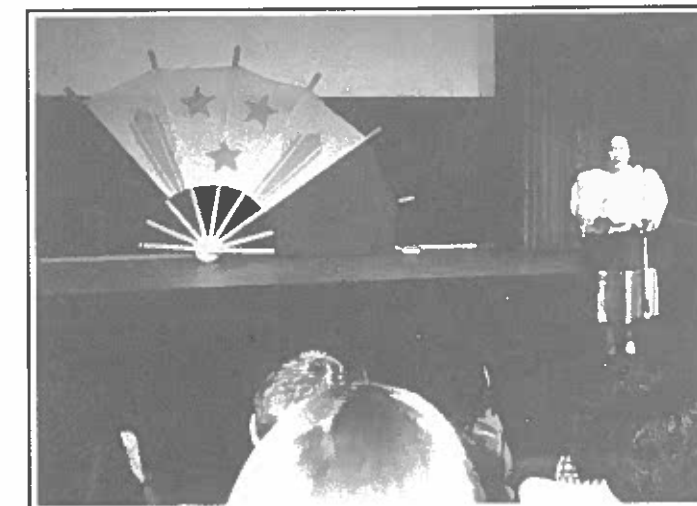
Everyone had a taste of the Philippine Centennial Cake by Albert Miraples, the Cake Master of Copenhagen.



The second generation Pinays give the audience a flash of some of the country's best ethnic dresses and attires.



Seated left of Ambassador Erlinda F. Basilio are Consul General & Mrs. Henning Agerskov. Standing behind are Bayanihan officers Cora Magpantay, Leonor Kristensen and Deng A. Valera-Larsen.



Ambassador Erlinda F. Basilio speaks before the crowd of spectators, ending the week-long cultural show dubbed *Filipinos in Focus* at the National Museum.

Left Photo: Heidi J. Escandor portrays the role of Sisa, the unfortunate mother of Basilio and Crispin, characters in Jose Rizal's *Noli Me Tangere*.



Maligayang Sentenyal sa Invong Lahat!

Ito po si
Rosalyn at Torben Venning
na umaasang ang diwang hatid ng
SENTENYAL
ay isabuhay nating lagi.



LUNCHEON MEETING. From left: Cesar Palad, Consul Marie Isleta, Deng A. Valera-Larsen, Carlito Besa of the **Filipinos Abroad** and Marc. R. Dicay are treated to a sumptuous lunch by Ambassador Erlinda F. Basilio at her residence at Stockholm.



Marc. R. Dicay during a brief consultation meeting in Manila with Vice President-elect Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo about some of the future projects of the Bayanihan Center for Filipino Migrants-Denmark.

PEOPLE HERE AND THERE

Heartfelt greetings to all round birthday celebrants:

- 09.07 Ben Garcia, 60 ■ 13.07 Sime Poblete, 60
- 17.07 Tante Magno, 60 ■ 21.08 Ben Alcaraz, 60
- 21.09 Paquito Cachola, 60 ■ 08.08 Estrella Hacinas, 50
- 05.09 Lyn Cotong, 50 ■ 05.09 Flor Hemberg, 40
- 28.90 Edgar Carlos, 40 ■ 30.07 Jean Bravo, 30
- 17.08 Edward Alcaraz, 30 ■ 26.08 Alex Jose, 30
- 11.09 Evelyn Tolentino, 30 ■ 14.07 Jessica Soriano, 20
- 20.07 Glenn Jørgensen, 20 ■ 25.07 Levi Jane Peralta, 20
- 04.08 Belinda Olesen, 20 ■ 30.08 Jenny Mayorga, 20
- 27.09 Cornelio Garcia, 20 ■ 21.07 Vincent Cantor, 10
- 16.08 Francis Valerie Bueza, 10

Congratulations to the families of those children who were baptized in the Lord:

- Catrine Cruz, daughter of Irene and Carsten on 3 July at Sankt Annæ Kirke
- Mikkel John del Rosario, son of Melissa and Edgardo on 11 July at Sacramento Kirke
- Grazielle Rose Lagliva, daughter of Julieta and Nomer on 1 August at Sacramento Kirke
- Norwin Mae Alberto, daughter of Norma and Edwin on 22 August at Sacramento Kirke
- Samantha Svenningsen, daughter of Maria and Klaus on 23 August at Sacramento Kirke
- Kyle Anthony Benjamin, son of Jing and Robin on 5 September at Sankt Annæ Kirke



Constante Magno, who turned 60 on 17 July, was feted to a birthday bash by wife Rosemarie, Proprietress of ROSTAN'S and by only child Noel. Held at their residence, the garden party was attended by close relatives and good friends.

Leonor Kristensen, 03 July
 Cho Baldon, 16 July
 Trine Jensen, 16 July
 Ely Petersen, 02 August
 Vivian Lundholm, 07 August



Luz Diño, 16 August
 Aurea Svendsen, 24 August
 Eddic Benjamin, 16 September
 Paquito Cachola, 21 September
 Elcna Olsen, 28 September

Just wondering...

by Oscar B. Navarro



Living a life

I have always been fascinated by scientific discoveries and inventions that make our life here on earth more pleasant and enjoyable. But at the same time, I have also been puzzled and perhaps would never come to understand why some of our intellectuals are very eager, if not obsessed, to explore the outer space for a possible existence

of life in the other planets of our solar system. Expenses, time and effort directed to this kind of venture had been almost unimaginable, not to mention the loss of life; and I only hope that the returns for such a great project could benefit the entire world and its inhabitants in general. Although there are times I question the validity of such an

Looking back during my early years in the grade school, I can vividly remember my mother asking me what I would want to be when I grow up. Having practically no idea about what life would be like ahead of me, I sometimes would pose a moment and shake my head and ran off to play with the other children in our neighborhood. Like the other boys and girls of my age, I never thought of the coming days and the kind of life that I would like to live.

But as the years go by and I slowly became aware of my environment, and my understanding of life had somewhat changed to a deeper sense, then I began to realize that I would require a goal, a purpose to live in order to have a real meaning of life. A goal is like a flickering light in the distance, a lighthouse during a stormy weather. It gives us not only hope but it also provides

us strength to continue. Frustration is one of our worst enemy in life and hope can wipe away our serious disappointments and can turn our defeat into a sweet success.

I always presume that we all need a sort of goal so that we could have a meaningful life. I could hardly think of living without a purpose, without something to hold on to, or the reason to continue living. But of course, there are some individuals who maybe are so hopeless or who are afraid of failure. Because to have a goal in life, one must be prepared to meet some disappointments, yet if you believe in your chosen path toward the attainment of success, then nothing could possibly hinder your way. Your anticipation, intense will and great determination will ultimately bring to a pedestal of success.

There is a saying "If you

endeavor, especially when I see the human sufferings and the people living under most inhumane conditions.

It is a pity that only a small minority is enjoying the benefit of our modern and advance technologies, while the vast majority of the world's population does not even have something to fill up their stomach, nor a roof over their heads. If that space telescope could be directed towards the earth instead of the galaxies, the entire world would probably be shocked to see the true picture of human sufferings.

Now a days, keeping alive is already a tremendous job, but living a life is even much harder. Considering all the sickness, the pollution, the natural and man-made catastrophes, we can imagine how difficult it is to be alive. In

countries where there are some kind of political troubles, famine or prosecution, staying alive could be almost impossible. But the human being is the most resourceful of all the creatures here in this planet who has learned the value of being alive.

Living a life according to your own perception gives meaning and color to your being alive. It is in the way we conduct our life, the method or style we adopt in our living that makes our being alive worthwhile. This is precisely why we have to have some kind of dreams, hopes and aspiration so that we have a reason to be alive. We shall always have something to hope for, a kind of goal to achieve that will give us the purpose to stay alive and live a life. ❀

Pursuing a goal

shot, aim high." This probably is right because if you don't hit the one at the top, most likely you will be hitting the one below. And still just recently, at one of the television program, someone said, that if you shot without a target, then you are liable to hit something. This may also be correct. These two given situations are perhaps the best way of avoiding disappointment and failures. Because once you set a goal and failed to accomplish it, then disappointment always follows. But don't let this failure drag you down. Let your determination and desire for success give you more strength to carry on the fight. After all what you've been through, you can't and you won't just give up. Let your hope high and your ambition strong and

nothing could possibly stand on your way. Remember, success without failure is not real success. The real sweet success is when after falling down, you have gathered enough strength to stand up and continue until you win the battle. Keep in mind that success is measured not by preventing from a fall but by coming from a fall. ❀

Bayanihan Center
 for
 Filipino Migrants-Denmark
 extends its
 heartfelt condolences to
 Isabel Malacas
 on the demise of her beloved
 ARCEL

Hvor godt vi kender danskerne?

By Diana Ranile Baluyos



os der kommer fra asien.

I det ny europas ånd prøver danskerne hårdt på at komme til at holde af tyskerne. Men de er alligevel overbeviste om at tyskerne forsøger at overtage Europa, forkleddt som turister. Og er ude på at købe Jylland og bygge hele området om til et windsurfing.

Danskerne er ret stolt over deres viking rødder - alt for stolt nogen gang at det glemmer fuldstændig at Danmark er ikke den eneste land i verden. Der er egentlig kun to ting danskerne misunder resten af verden for: de varme vindre of de smukke sprog.

Janteloven taler de meget om, det er noget specielt dansk, en dårlige indfluence fra en norsk forfatter Axel Sandemos. Det er netop den tankegang at "man skal ikke tro at man er noget og at man duer til noget." Danskerne vil helst sidde ned for så øges muligheden for at alle er i øjenhøjde og lige fod med hinanden.

Danskerne bryder sig ikke om tanken om, at nogle er bedre og at nogle tjener flere penge end andre. Så pas på for vi filippinere elsker at prale.

Danskerne påklædning er meget subtil: En kvindelig EDB - programør må passe meget på

ikke at gå i alt for tjekket tøj, for så vil hun blive forvekslet med en sekretær.

Danskerne er meget diskret (og spartansk) over deres påklædning, i modsætning til os filippiner hvorledes vi udstråler glamør og en suveræn stolthed selvom vi er kun en stakkels rengøringskoner eller værre: på bistandhjælp!

Der er ikke et ord for "please" på dansk. Men de lærer børnene at sige "må jeg bede om."

Smalltalk kan blive gigantisk i omfang. Danskerne kan finde på at fortælle dig, hvor meget de tjener, hvor høj deres husleje er, og om de barberer sig under armene. De kan finde på at spørge om du er vildt fremmed: Er det virkelig så varmt herinde, eller er det bare min menstruation?

Hov, hvor flot du taler dansk o.s.v. eller kan du tænke dig at blive i Danmark for evigt (AMEN).

I de fleste situationer er et håndtryk rigeligt, for danskerne er ikke gode til hilsenkys.

Når der er brug for noget stærkere end et håndtryk, går danskerne over til et knus uden ansigtskontakt: blot et tryk af overkroppene mod hinanden og måske at samtidigt klap på ryggen.

Efter 8½ års ophold i lille Danmark, hvor jeg har både arbejdet og læser i danskskole systemer, fandt jeg ud af, at Danmark er et land der passer bedst til en protestanske pige som mig.

Jeg er en konservativ opdrage pige fra den sydlige del på Filippinerne, hvor begge mine forældre er akademikere og kommer fra mellemklasse familie. Min mor er katolik og min far er protestant, men valgt at være protestansketroende for mine afdøde onkel var biskop i det protestanske kirke på Mindanao.

Jeg er stolt for at være en filipina i kamp for ligestilling med danskerne. Danmark er mit andet fædreland. Min kæster er en dansker og vores forskellighed gør at det kan også være besværligt at lave kompromi, men vore lutherske tro forstærker forholdet.

Til andre filippinere som har svært ved at forstå den danske kultur, vil jeg sige, prøve at forstå hvorfor danskerne er bang for fremmed.

Danskes historie kan forklare alt - men en ting er sikkert - i bund og grund er vi alle sammen det samme. Og for det siger jeg gud bevare Danmark! ❀

For os filippinere kender vi Danmark som et land med lange bene blondiner og deres himmel blå øjne. Men Danmark er mere end rødstrømpe kvinder og deres kamp for ligestilling med mænd.

Danmark er ikke et særligt skandinavisk land, for der er ingen midnatssol, ingen skibakken og ingen rensdyr.

Svenskerne er skandi-

naviens prørsere - de er stiv og konservativ. De gør hvad de får besked på - et totalt modsætning med danskerne. Normændene er som skoteme: hårdføre bjergfolk.

Danskerne er dyb bekymrer over muslimernes dominance i dagens Danmark - en trussel til det lutherske tro.

Men de trods alt holder meget af deres underdanig udlænding som

Refugees

By Elizabeth Padillo Olesen

Once there lived a man, woman and child.
They tilled the land, cooked their food,
built their school and built their house.
The birds and rivers sang as they danced
and went to bed when the sun went down.

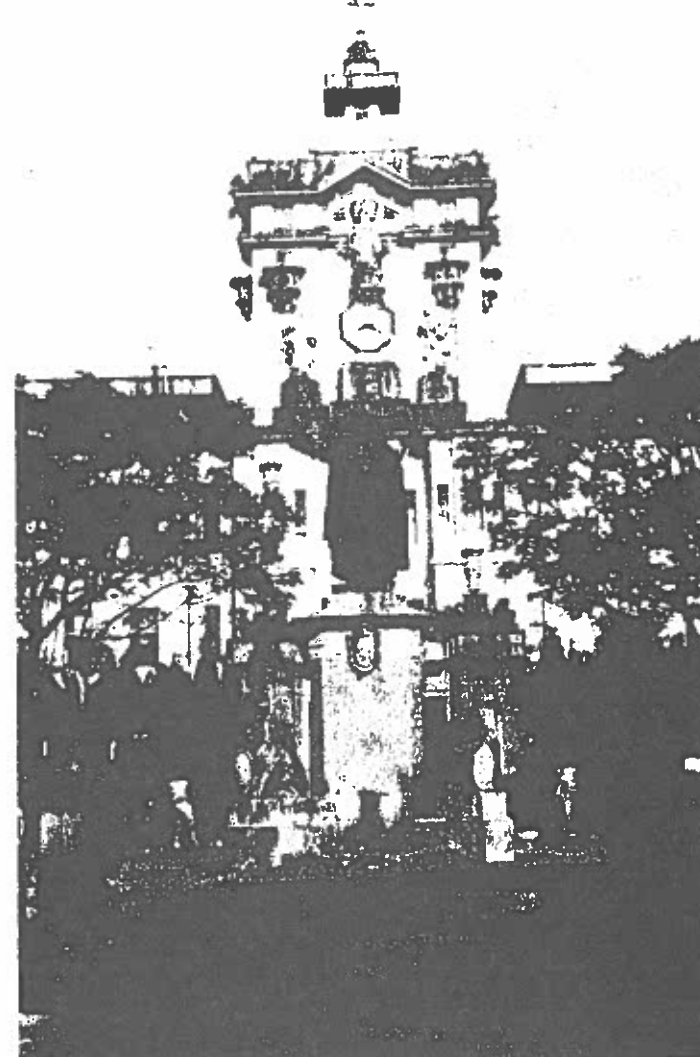
Once there lived a man with his gun.
He thought the land, the food, the school
and the house of the other man, the woman
and the child could be his with his gun.
He could not sleep and so he started
shooting at the birds, the rivers and the stars.
He dreamed that all the land and all in it
could be his with his gun.

Then the man, the woman and the child
in their own land, their house and their farm
could not sleep on their bed,
and could not listen anymore
to the singing of the birds and rivers,
for they had to leave, to leave in much hurry,
that there was nothing at all they could carry.

They walked and walked through the miles
without sandals on their feet,
searched for food and rested on shades of the trees.
Their hearts began to dance in great delight
as they from a distance could see
some signs of life,
of crowded communities,
whom they thought could have bid them in
for food, water and bed.
But all the while, they were called strangers
and must stay out of the borders.

Until now the man, the woman and the child
keep on wandering from one land to another,
waiting to be invited to come in a border
where they can build
their house, and a school for their child
and where they can cook their food,
dig a well and farm a piece of land.

Did you know that... The University of Santo Tomas Cradle of Heroes



officially participate in the Philippine Revolution, but it did play a significant role, as cradle of the intrepid souls who sparked and led the Revolution. It nurtured the educated Filipino youth who became the ecclesiastics, lawyers, physicians, pharmacists, poets and journalists who would become the intellectual engines of the Revolution. Here is a roll call of the more well-known Thomasian graduates and alumni:

Gregorio Aglipay (A.B. 1881-82): Revolutionary priest-soldier, first Obispo Maximo of the Philippine Independent Church.

Felipe Agoncillo (A.B. 1875): Diplomat of the First Republic, Filipino Spokesman in the Treaty of Paris.

Cayetano Arellano (Theology 1867; Bachelor of Civil Law 1871): First Secretary of Foreign Affairs, "The Greatest Filipino Jurist."

Jose Burgos (Eight decrees including licentiate and doctorates in Philosophy, Theology and Canon Law 1855-71): National priest and martyr.

Felipe Calderon (A.B. 1886; Licentiate in Law 1893): Father of the Malolos Constitution.

Fernando Maria Guerrero (Licentiate in Law 1897): Revolutionary journalist and poet.

Leon Maria Guerrero (Bachelor of Pharmacy 1875; Licentiate in Pharmacy 1876): Father of Philippine Botany; Delegate to the Malolos

Constitution.

Emilio Jacinto (A.B.; student of Law): "The Brains of the Katipunan" and the founder and editor of the underground newspaper *Kalayaan*.

Antonio Luna (A.B.; student of Pharmacy): Greatest military strategist of the Revolution.

Apolinario Mabini (A.B. 1877; Licentiate in Law 1894): "The Brains of the Revolution" and "The Sublime Paralytic."

Marcelo H. del Pilar (Bachelor of Philosophy 1871; Licentiate in Law 1881): Editor of *La Solidaridad* and Leader of the Propaganda Movement.

Mariano Ponce (A.B. 1885; student of Medicine 1885-87): Patriot and Man of Letters of the Propaganda Movement.

Isabelo de los Reyes (A.B. 1885): Founder of the Philippine Independent Church.

Ambrosio Rianzares Bautista (A.B.; Bachelor of Theology 1854; Bachelor of Canon Law 1857; Bachelor of Law 1865): Author of the Declaration of Philippine Independence, 12 June 1898.

Jose Rizal (Pre-Law 1877-78; Medicine 1878-82): National hero of the Philippines.

Indeed, by acting as a civilizing and evangelizing force in consonance with the vision of its founder, Dominican Archbishop of Manila Miguel de Benavidez, UST molded the outstanding men who became the vanguards of the Filipino nationalist movement.

Today, the University of Santo Tomas faces the formidable task of reconciling the heritage of the past with the challenges of the future. Moved by its relentless desire to deepen its university culture that promotes critical inquiry, Catholic values and ethical behavior, commitment to the truth, intellectual openness and objective dialogue with the times, UST shall, without compromise, remain a cradle of heroes, past present and future. ❀