

The Philippines under its Oriental Sister: 1941-1945

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INTRODUCTION

Only four years away from the promised and much awaited independence from the Americans, the Filipinos as a people and as a nation suffered a great deal from the hands of its fellow Oriental sister, Japan. Though it was only a three-year occupation, it has left a deep mark on everyone – rich and poor, young and old, men and women.

The Japanese wanted to include the Philippines in its dream for a “Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.” This expansionist aim was disguised in pseudo-internationalist propaganda. The Japanese knew that cooperation will not be possible unless they gained the Filipino’s trust and to achieve this it has made use of different propaganda in politics, economy, religion and culture.

This paper looks into this dark and most trying part of our history as it examines various events and how it affected and changed us as a nation.