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Exploring Transnational Communities in the Philippines
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Book Notes

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curricular offerings, textbook writing, and the effects of neoliberalism on various academic disciplines such as literature, history, science and technology, cultural studies, media studies, and linguistics. The book ends with some discussions on alternative modes of education that may be applied to counter the effects of neoliberalism. A guide for educators is appended in the last section.

MIRALAO, VIRGINIA A. AND LORNA P. MAKIL, EDS.

Exploring Transnational Communities in the Philippines

Quezon City: Philippine Migration Research Network and the Philippine Social Science Council, 2007. 171 pages.

The first part of this collection of papers focuses on the Philippines as a destination country and explores the diasporic communities of Koreans, Vietnamese, and Japanese. Miralao argues that their growing number in the Philippines and Filipinos' increasing openness toward them must be understood in the context of globalization. For instance, although most Koreans do not intend to settle permanently in the Philippines, the transnational structures and networks that enable the movement of Koreans to the Philippines and back to Korea seem to be stable and enduring. The Vietnamese community in Vietville, which emerged out of a refugee camp, has become a dynamic part of Puerto Princesa and has definitely enriched local culture. However, the immigration status of members of this Vietnamese community, with an increasing number of births on Philippine soil, has remained unsettled. The paper on the Japanese explores the deep and long history of Japanese engagement with the Philippines, noting the inimical consequence of the Second World War on the social identity of Filipinos with a part-Japanese heritage. The second part of this book looks into the policy challenges of contemporary Filipino migrations, particularly the Citizenship Retention and Reacquisition Act of 2003 and the Absentee Voting Act also of 2003. Miralao provides an introduction that contextualizes the different papers in this collection.