

**A HISTORIOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS
IN THE EAST ASIA-OCEANIA CONTEXT:
SCRATCHING THE SURFACE**

by

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While I was organizing my ideas up until I was almost on the verge of completing the ‘rough’ draft of my paper, I realized that, given the time limitation and my own limitation as someone who had no formal training in historiography, I could not go into a comprehensive and in-depth historiographical analysis of the writings I had gathered. I thought the metaphor “scratching the surface” would more appropriately express the level at which I was laboring – which I was.

My study covers the countries in the East Asian-Oceania region except the Philippines. They are China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Taiwan, Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Thailand, Timor East, and Vietnam. In reality only a number of these countries figure in the materials I consider relevant.

I have opted as well to limit the historical period covered by the writings for the last 50 years or so. That would be the post-WW II period. Moreover, considering the enormity of the study, I decided to just restrict it to the following religious congregation of men: Augustinians (O.A), Augustinian Recollects (O.A.R.), CICM, Dominicans (O.P.), Jesuits (S.J.), Redemptorists (Cs.S.R.), Society of the Divine Word (SVD) and Vincentians (C.M.).

These are some of the libraries I went to in Metro Manila:

East Asian Pastoral Institute
UST Central Library
UST Ecclesiastical Faculty Library
Vincentians: St. Vincent School of Theology

Maryhill School of Theology library

I went to the archives of St. Augustine's church of the Augustinian Order in Intramuros, Manila on Oct 25, 2013. Unfortunately the place was under renovation, and so it was not open to public. I also tried my luck at the Franciscan Provincial house in Quezon City. Unfortunately again during the entire remaining days of my research, the entire Franciscan community was out for a retreat and I couldn't be allowed access to their archives.

For the Cebu-based research I was helped by my research associate Mr. Josmar Dionzon, an ex-SVD seminarian and former colleague of mine in the previous Department of Religious Education, University of San Carlos who went the rounds of the religious congregations based in Cebu. He was also able to do some online research to supplement my work. Towards the end of my presentation I'm going to present a list of repositories of information and historical writings Mr. Dionzon has gathered online. They can be useful for someone who may be interested to do further research on the historiography of the religious orders in the East Asia-Oceania context.

Offhand I would say that the repositories of historical information which immediately offered me relevant materials are the libraries of St. Vincent School of Theology and the C.I.C.M.-owned and -run Maryhill School of Theology. Even the UST libraries which is the best in terms of archival materials, according to the Jesuit historian Fr. Jose Arcilla yielded only a couple of relevant sources not because it is lacking but either the archival materials were in Spanish or the historical writings focus on the Philippine context. Anyhow more time and more efforts are needed to substantiate or negate my claim.

To give you an idea of the written sources I gathered in MetroManila thus far and their classification by religious orders, I'm presenting to you the following table:

	Books	Articles	Assorted: Reports, Monographs, Statements, et al
Augustinians (O.A.)	(nothing relevant)	(nothing relevant)	(only Augustinian newsletter)
			Compilation of reports SACS/STVI Province of Sto. Nino de Cebu- Phil. 2005-2013 (still to be sorted out, most can be considered primary sources)

Augustinian Recollects (nothing relevant) (nothing relevant) (nothing relevant)
(O.A.R.)

C.I.C.M. Amigle, Rev. Fr. Ernesto M. *75 Years of CICM Missionary Journey in Indonesia 1937-2012*. Bekasi, Indonesia: 2012.
[Indonesia]

Taveirne, P. "China: Exodus and Diaspora." In *C.I.C.M. Missionaries Past and Present*, 256-280. Leuven University Press, 1995.
[China]

Degrijse, Omer. *The Immaculate Heart Missions a Centennial 1862-1962* (letter by the then CICM superior general)
[China, pp. 16-19]

Missionhurst: The Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. (Arlington, VA. 1963), 17-?.
[partly mentions China, pp. 8-9; a little (in passing) on Indonesia, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, p.17]

Eerenbeemt, J. van den and D. Vansacker. "Indonesia: A Mission in the World of Islam." In *C.I.C.M. Missionaries Past and Present*, 341-351. Leuven University Press, 1995.
[Indonesia]

Renson, R. "Japan: An Unfulfilled Expectation." In *C.I.C.M. Missionaries Past and Present*, 352-364. Leuven University Press, 1995.

[Japan]

Decraene, M. "CICM

and the Chinese Church Today.” *EUNTES Digest* (November-December 1988): 542-546.

[context: China]

Goossens, Ludo, C.I.C.M. “Perspectives on the Japanese Province of CICM on the Occasion of 50 Years of Missionary Presence in Japan.” *The Japan Mission Journal* 52, no. 4 (Winter, 1998): 242-248.

[Japan]

Amigleio, Rev. Fr. Ernesto M., CICM. “Journey from Mission Church to Local Church: A Story of CICM Evangelization in Indonesia.” In *CICM: 150 Years of Service in God’s Mission (1862-2012)*. Edited by Jaime R. Sadullo, Andre De Bleeker and Maria Brenda L. Tan, 57-??. Makati: St. Pauls, 2012.

[Indonesia]

Heyndrickx, Rev. Fr.
Jerome J., CICM.
“Verbiest Foundation-
Leuven: An Institution
for Evangelization in
China Created by the
CICM.” In *CICM: 150
Years of Service in
God’s Mission (1862-
2012)*. Edited by Jaime
R. Sadullo, Andre De
Bleeker and Maria
Brenda L. Tan, 139-??.
Makati: St. Pauls, 2012.

[\[China\]](#)

Degrijse, Omer, CICM.
“The Immaculate Heart
Missions 1862-1962.”
In *The Centennial of
SCHEUT*. n.d. pp. 17-
211

Masschelein, Patrick,
CICM. “What about
CICM and Hongkong
in 1997? . . .”
Missionhurst 49, no. 3
(June-July 1997): 10-
13.

[\[Hong Kong\]](#)

1 Superior general 1962

Dominicans (O.P.)²

Statement on
“Dominican
Conference on Justice
and Peace, Asia-Pacific
Region: Hongkong,
1984.” In *The
Dominicans’ Mission
Here and Now*, ed.
Fausto Gomez, O.P.,
141-143. Manila:
University of Santo
Tomas, 1988.

Statement on
“Dominican Asia-
Pacific Regional
Conference:
Teschemakers, New
Zealand: 1987.” In *The
Dominicans’ Mission
Here and Now*, ed.
Fausto Gomez, O.P.,
148-149. Manila:
University of Santo
Tomas, 1988.

² A quarterly magazine for the UST arts and sciences: *Unitas*.

Franciscans (O.F.M)

Jesuits (S.J.)

Ryan, Thomas F. ,S.J.
Jesuits in China (details needed).

[See the relevant portion, Chapter VIII. Twentieth Century: Second Half. It covers Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China Mainland (pp. 132-163)]

Nicolas, Adolfo, S.J.
“Ongoing Formation and Pastoral Service.” *East Asian Pastoral Review* (1987): 21-?

King, Geoffrey, SJ.
EAPI. “At Twenty-Five: Evaluation, Mission Statement, Future Plans.” *East Asian Pastoral Review* 28, no. 2 (1991): ??

“Forming Jesuits for Asia Pacific.” *Jesuits in Asia Pacific 2012*, 6-7. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.

[context: Loyola School of Theology which caters to students from Asia-Pacific]

Presidents’s Report. “The Conference in 2011.” *Jesuits in Asia Pacific 2012*, 3-5. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.3

[mentions Timor-Leste, Myanmar, Vietnam, China,

“President’s Report on 2012.” *A Faith that Does Justice the Jesuits in Asia-Pacific 2013*, 3-5.

Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.

[mentions Australia, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Myanmar, Jakarta, Singapore]

“The Vision of an Educational Institute.” *Jesuits in Asia Pacific 2012*, 8-9. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.

[context: Timor-Leste]

“A Sense of Sacred Ecology.” *Jesuits in Asia Pacific 2012*, 10-11. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.

[context: Mekong river]

“Living with our Neighbors.” *Jesuits in Asia Pacific 2012*, 12-13. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.

[Yiutsari Center, Korea]

“The Asia Pacific Conference.” *Jesuits in Asia Pacific 2012*, 14-15. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila, 2012.

[mentions where JAPC works: Australia, Cambodia, China,

Indonesia, Japan,
Korea, Laos, Malaysia,
Micronesia, Myanmar,
New Zealand,
Philippines, Singapore,
Taiwan, Thailand,
Timor-Leste,
Vietname]

Gleeson, Fr.
Christopher, SJ. “The
Gift of Education.” *A
Faith that Does Justice
the Jesuits in Asia-
Pacific 2013*, 6-7.
Quezon City: Ateneo de
Manila, 2012.

[context: a Jesuit
educational initiative in
Timor-Leste]

Leger, Fr. Arthur, SJ.
“Forming Pastoral
Leaders for a Mission.”
*A Faith that Does
Justice the Jesuits in
Asia-Pacific 2013*, 10-
11. Quezon City:
Ateneo de Manila,
2012.

[context: East Asian
Pastoral Institute in
Quezon City which
caters to Africa, Asia,
and Oceania]

Raper, Mark, SJ.
“Looking Forward.” *A
Faith that Does Justice
the Jesuits in Asia-
Pacific 2013*, 14-15.
Quezon City: Ateneo de
Manila, 2012.

[mentions Korea,
Cambodia, Myanmar]

Redemptorists (CsSR) (see *supplementary
portion below*)

SVD (see *supplementary
portion below*)

Vincentians (C.M.) Riyanto, Armada. *The
80 Years of the
Presence of the CM
Priests in Indonesia.*
2003. O’Donnell, Hugh, C.M.
“The China Mission.”
Vincentiana 42nd
YEAR, no. 6
(November-December
1998): 423-428.

[China]

Tran Cong Du, Gerard,
CM. and Alexis Hau.
“The Congregation of
the Mission in
Vietnam.” *Vincentiana*
42nd YEAR, no. 6
(November-December
1998): 448-454.

[Vietnam]

Sendlein, Thomas,
CICM. “Vincentian
Chinese Pilgrimage to
Rome: Chronicle of the
Canonization of the

Francis Regis Clet.”
Vincentiana 45th
YEAR, no. 1 (January-
February 2001): 2-8.

[China]

Maloney, Robert P.,
CM. “Our Vincentian
Mission in China:
Yesterday, Today, and
Tomorrow.”

Vincentiana 45th
YEAR, no. 1 (January-
February 2001): 43-52.

[China]

Armada, Franciscus
Eko, CM. “The 80th
Anniversary of the
Presence of the
Vincentians in
Indonesia (1923-2003):
A Historical
Reflection.”
Vincentiana 48TH
YEAR, no. 3 (May-
June 2004): 190-200.

[Indonesia]

Vincentiana 53rd
YEAR, no. 1/2
(January-April 2009) --
- SIEV Colloquium on
Vincentian History and
Historiography

In sum in terms of published books written I gathered four (CICM 2; CM 1; Jesuits 1), 25 articles found in journals or magazines (CICM 10; CM 6; Jesuits 9); and 7 assorted (Augustinians 2; CICM 1; O.P. 2; Jesuits 2).

Based on the sources and materials I actually collected, I came up with the following tentative observations:

1. Most of the materials I stumbled upon are articles published either in a religious congregation's periodic journal or in a book or in a magazine. A few are a superior's reports/letters and formal statements expressing the congregation's pastoral commitment. In another congregation I was shown compilations of reports/minutes/proceedings/letters which focus on the Philippines.
2. In general, the articles were written by the respective congregation's historians or writers in narrative sketchy form and for the most part a mix of historical exposition and theological reflection, theological and/or missiological.
3. Usually no bibliography is indicated.
4. The research method is not presented as well. I haven't come across writings which use other methods, e.g. analytical, other than the narrative. The narrative according to Lawrence Stone (English historian of early modern Britain) has traditionally been the main rhetorical device used in writing history. It prefers anecdotes over analysis, use of examples or illustrations rather than statistically verified empirical regularities.
5. Only three books are of note namely Amigle, Rev. Fr. Ernesto M. *75 Years of CICM Missionary Journey in Indonesia 1937-2012*. Bekasi, Indonesia: 2012; Riyanto, Armada. *The 80 Years of the Presence of the CM Priests in Indonesia*. 2003; and Ryan, Thomas

F., S.J. *Jesuits in China*. All three contain bibliography. At least one, Fr. Amigleó's work, contains endnotes. The sources used were oral and written through library research and interviews with key informants. These are the only works I find with scientific value although the narrative form runs through both writings and there's a reflection portion as well.

6. The writings (books and articles with historical content) by and large highlight achievements of the congregation, thus biased, over challenges which came in the way. This is expected esp by those commemorative works meant to encourage or exhort or inspire. Some works like the Jesuit APC magazine are promotional, and can be linked, as a Jesuit archivist I talked to, to financial subsidy.
7. I haven't come across some kind of an integrated historical writing focused exclusively on the East Asia context and/or Oceania context that covers the post-world war II era. It seems safe to say that nothing has been done at least by those religious orders covered by my research. Most of the relevant materials I stumbled upon are articles written in a journal or in a magazine or small portions of a book, not to mention that they deal with individual countries mostly in the East Asian context. What I have so far are a couple of books which by chance were written in the particular Indonesian context and another book on China. The Jesuits, Augustinians, and Vincentians I've talked to confirmed the lacuna.
8. Considering the great limitation of my study, I suggest that further, more intensive and more extensive research can be made regarding the historiography of the religious orders in the context of the East Asia-Oceania region. The research should not only be limited to the repositories of information located in the Philippines. I am sure other countries in the region contain historical sources/resources which cannot be found here in the Philippine libraries.

Supplementary: Below are additional list of historical studies produced in the East Asian context and of online archives/repositories of historical information of a good number of religious congregations.

Historical Studies in East Asia

Christianity in Taiwan

Borao Mateo, José Eugenio. 2009. **The Spanish Experience in Taiwan, 1626-1642: The Baroque Ending of a Renaissance Endeavour.** Hong Kong University Press.

Borao Mateo, José Eugenio. 2002. **Spaniards in Taiwan, Taipei: Vol II (1642-1682).** SMC Publishing Inc.

Borao Mateo, José Eugenio. 2001. **Spaniards in Taiwan, Taipei: Vol. I (1582-1641).** SMC Publishing Inc.

Borao Mateo, José Eugenio. 2000. "The Catholic Dominican Missionaries in Taiwan, 1626-1642." In: Leuven Chinese Studies (special issue on Missionary Approaches and Linguistic in Mainland China and Taiwan) No. X, pp. 101-132.

Borao Mateo, José Eugenio 1994. **Spanish Sources for the History of Taiwan.** "International Congress on Taiwan Historical and Colonial Sources", National Taiwan University.

Christianity in China

Tiedemann, Gary, ed. 2010. **Handbook of Christianity in China: Volume Two: 1800 – present.** Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill Academic Pub

Standaert, Nicolas, ed. 2001. **Handbook of Christianity in China. Volume One: 635-1800.** Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill Academic Pub.

Tiedemann, Gary. 2009. **Reference Guide to Christian Missionary Societies in China: from the 16th to the 20th Century**. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe.

Cary-Elwes, Columba. 1957. **China and the Cross: A Survey of Missionary History**. New York: P.J. Kenedy.

Charbonnier, Jean-Pierre. 2007. **Christians in China A.D. 600 to 2000**. San Francisco, CA, Ignatius Press.

Gerald H. Anderson, Robert T. Coote, James M. Phillips, eds. 1994. **Mission Legacies: Biographical Studies of Leaders of the Modern Missionary Movement** (American Society of Missiology). Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.

Brockey, Liam Matthew. 2007. **Journey to the East: The Jesuit Mission to China, 1579–1724**. Cambridge, Mass: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.

Christianity in Japan

Mullins, Mark. 1998. **Christianity Made in Japan: A Study of Indigenous Movements**. University of Hawai'i Press

Mullins, Mark. 2003. **Handbook of Christianity in Japan**. Leiden and Boston: Brill Academic Pub.

Christianity in Indonesia

Steenbrink, K.A. and Aritonang, J.S. 2008. **A History of Christianity in Indonesia**. Leiden and Boston: Brill Academic Pub.

Franciscans in China

Anthony E. Clark. 2011. **China's Saints: Catholic Martyrdom During the Qing (1644-1911) (Christianity in China)**. Bethlehem: Lehigh University Press.

Divine Word Missionaries in Papua New Guinea

Divine Word Missionaries in Papua New Guinea 1896-1996. Nettetal, Germany: Steyler Verlag

Gaesch, Patrick. 2009. **Mission and violence: healing the lasting damage**. Papua New Guinea: DWU Press.

Ruffing, Norman. **The Word in the world, 1969: Divine Word Missionaries, New Guinea:**

Divine Word Missionaries in Taiwan, Japan, and Philippines

Divine Word Missionaries. **Divine Word Missionaries in Asian Universities: Fu Jen, Taiwan; Nanzan, Japan; San Carlos, Philippines; Divine Word, Philippines**. Nettetal, Germany: Steyler Verlag

Archives

1. Archives of the Society of the Divine Word (Rome)
2. Archives of the Order of Friars Minor (Rome)
3. Archives of the Franciscans Missionaries of Mary (Rome)
4. Archives of the Order of Preachers (Rome)
5. Archives of the Society of Jesus (Rome and Taipei)
6. Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana (Vatican)
7. Archivio Segreto Vaticano (Vatican)
8. Archives of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll, New York)
9. Archives of the Society of the Divine Word (Rome)
10. Archives of the Order of Friars Minor (Rome)
11. Archives of the Franciscans Missionaries of Mary (Rome)
12. Archives of the Order of Preachers (Rome)
13. Archives of the Society of Jesus (Rome and Taipei)
14. Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana (Vatican)
15. Archivio Segreto Vaticano (Vatican)
16. Archives of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll, New York)

Online Archives

Divine Word Missionaries (SVD) Online Archives

Available only to SVD Members. Non-member per request.

Jesuits Online Archives

Available for non-member per request; preferably expert

Franciscans Online Archives

Available for non-member per request; preferably expert

Franciscans Online Library

Available for non-member per request; preferably expert

Dominicans Online Library

Available for non-member per request; preferably expert

Redemptorist Online Archives

Available for non-member per request; preferably expert

UST Online Library (Philippines)

ADMU (Ateneo de Manila) Online Library (Philippines)

Divine Word School of Theology (SVD) Online Library (Philippines)

Adamson University Online Library (Philippines)