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LIST: Where to Find Jose Rizal Statues, Markers, and Monuments in 20 Cities outside the PhilippinesRizal Monument in Madrid, SpainJose Rizal Square in Jinjiang, ChinaJose Rizal Park in Wilhelmsfeld, GermanyJosé Rizal historical marker at Heidelberg, GermanyJose Rizal bust in Prague, Czech RepublicDr. Jose Rizal Monument in Chicago, USAJose Rizal Monument in Rome, ItalyRizal Bust at Hibiya Park, TokyoDr. Jose Rizal’s Bust in Montreal, CanadaDr. Jose Rizal Monument in Markham, Ontario, CanadaJose Rizal Park and Bridge in Seattle, USADr. Jose Rizal’s Plaque in LondonRizal Monument in Carson, CaliforniaJose P. Rizal Monument in Honolulu, HawaiiRizal Marker in Hong KongPlace Jose Rizal in Paris, FranceDr. Jose Protacio Rizal’s bust in Sydney, AustraliaRizal Monument in SingaporeDr. Jose Rizal’s bronze bust in Lima, PeruStatue of Dr. Jose Rizal in Mexico CityFrequently Asked QuestionsHow many Jose Rizal monuments are there in the world? Dr. Jose Rizal is recognized as the national hero of the Philippines. But did you know that other countries also recognize his literary and scientific contributions to the world? It’s a known fact that Rizal traveled to several countries in his lifetime. And in some of them, monuments were erected to celebrate his heroism. If you’re curious, here are some of the Jose Rizal monuments you can find outside the Philippines! Rizal Monument in Madrid, Spain Rizal Monument in Madrid by Luis Garcia, CC BY-SA 3.0 es, cc The Jose Rizal monument in Spain replicates his iconic Luneta monument in Manila. Many people know that Rizal was executed by the Spanish colonial government in 1896 for rebellion, resulting in Philippine independence. But before this encounter, Rizal lived and studied in Spain, pursuing a degree in medicine at Universidad Central de Madrid. And at present, a monument stands at the Avenida de las Islas Filipinas and Calle Santander junction in Madrid. The Philippine Embassy in Spain also offers a walking tour where you can see the historical places associated with the national hero. Jose Rizal Square in Jinjiang, China Jose Rizal Square in Jinjiang, China Image via Philippine Consulate General in Xiamen One of the most significant Rizal structures you’ll ever see is this monument in Jinjiang City. The monument stands 18.61 feet tall, with the construction formally started in 2003. The country recognizes Rizal’s Chinese roots, which are said to be traced to the Ke family ancestors. The bronze monument is perched at the center of Jose Rizal Square, surrounded by beautiful flowers and greenery. Jose Rizal Park in Wilhelmsfeld, Germany Jose Rizal Park in Wilhelmsfeld, Germany by Eugene Alvin Villar via Wikimedia cc Rizal Statue in Wilhelmsfeld, Germany by Eugene Alvin Villar via Wikimedia cc In Germany, you’ll find a tall, bronze statue of Jose Rizal holding a quill and a faraway gale. Located in an out-of-the-way village buried deep in the Odenwald Forest about 25 kilometers from Heidelberg, there’s a statue and park dedicated to Dr. Jose Rizal. This was made by Filipino sculptor Anastacio Caedo. The statue stands in the aptly named Rizal Park, which was opened in 1978. The site marker mentions Rizal’s “exemplary social and political commitment.” Rizal had also studied in Germany, attending lectures on ophthalmology at Alte Universitat. Rizal lived a modest life in Germany as a student, prompting him to write A Las Flores de Heidelberg, a poem about the town with hints of longing for the Philippines. José Rizal historical marker at Heidelberg, Germany Dr. Jose Rizal historical marker in Heidelberg, Germany by Eugene Alvin Villar via Wikimedia cc Location: University Eye Clinic at Berghheimer StraÙe 20, Heidelberg, Germany According to an article written by Ramon M. Roda, a retired professor of Spanish and Rizal courses in Manila who had visited Heidelberg in 1998, Rizal had studied the German language, attended lectures in ophthalmology as an observer at the Alte Universitat (Germany’s oldest university founded in 1386), and trained under two outstanding ophthalmologists in the university eye-clinic in Heidelberg. Rizal was only 25 years old when he first arrived in Heidelberg, Germany. Jose Rizal bust in Prague, Czech Republic Jose Rizal bust in Prague, Czech Republic By Mojmir Churavy – Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, cc (Filipino sculptor Jose Giroy was the one who created the masterpiece that is the Jose Rizal bust, which was unveiled at the Czech National Bank. The bust aims to commemorate the hero’s visit to Prague in 1887 with a friend who toured the Czech capital and met with scientists. The bust is now a must-see attraction in the city for tourists to appreciate Rizal’s history in the country. Dr. Jose Rizal Monument in Chicago, USA Jose Rizal statue in Lincoln Park Chicago by alanscottwalker via Wikimedia cc The Jose Rizal sculpture was installed in 1999 on N. Marine Drive in Chicago, Illinois. The monument commemorates the 100th anniversary of Philippine independence and Jose Rizal as a revolutionary martyr. It was in the year 1994 when the members of the Order of the Knights of Rizal and the Ladies of Rizal campaigned to install a monument in Lincoln Park. The sculpture was made by Antonio “Lito” Mondejar. Jose Rizal Monument in Rome, Italy Statue of Jose Protacio Rizal in Rome, Italy by acidiscovery via Wikimedia cc In Rome, Italy, you’ll find a life-sized bronze statue of Jose Rizal in Piazzale Manila. With the help of Josephine Bantug, a relative of Dr. Jose Rizal, the monument was added to commemorate the 150th birthday of the hero. It can be recalled that Rizal also visited Italy while traveling in Europe. He also wrote about his fondness for Italy during his stay. Rizal Bust at Hibiya Park, Tokyo Rizal Bust at Hibiya Park, Tokyo Rizal Bust by Dandy1022 via Wikimedia cc This bronze bust stands on the perimeter trail of Hibiya Park in Tokyo. It was put there in 1998, on the centennial anniversary of Philippine independence, to the historical marker in Tokyo Hotel, where Rizal had stayed in 1888. Some events, such as Rizal’s birth, are held here to commemorate the hero. Dr. Jose Rizal’s Bust in Montreal, Canada Jose Rizal’s monument in Montreal, Quebec, Canada by Jean Gagnon via Wikimedia cc The Philippine government presented the waist-length bust of Jose Rizal in Montreal, Canada, to the Ville de Montreal. It was sculpted by Toym Imao, son of another renowned Philippine artist Abdulmari Imao Sr. It was one of the 24 busts created by the artist. The bust can be found at Parc Mackenzie-King. Dr. Jose Rizal Monument in Markham, Ontario, Canada Statue of Philippine national hero Jose Rizal in Ontario park photo via Canadainfilipino.net Location: Luneta Gardens at Boxgrove Community Park in Markham Ontario The monument was unveiled on June 10, 2019. During the unveiling, Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti, former Markham councillor Alex Chiu and Philippine Deputy Consul General Bernadette Therese C. Fernandez were present. The monument is the latest addition to Markham’s public art collection created by a partnership between the Filipino Canadian community of Markham and the city. Jose Rizal Park and Bridge in Seattle, USA Jose Rizal Park and Bridge in Seattle, USA Jose Rizal Park and Bridge in Seattle photo via theclio.com In Seattle, they don’t only have a monument dedicated to Jose Rizal—they also have a park and a bridge named after him! Rizal Park and Bridge in Seattle was dedicated by Mayor Charles Royer and Philippine Consul General Ernesto Querubin. The park and bridge at Seattle’s Beacon Hill were renamed after the hero to symbolize Filipino-American pride, as the Filipino Alumni Association requested. Dr. Jose Rizal’s Plaque in London Rizal Plaque in London by Spudgun67 via Wikimedia cc Dr. Jose Rizal was 26 years old when he lived in London for less than a year to meet with influential Orientalists in Europe. It was also in London where he formed Philippine Studies. In honor of Rizal living in London in 1868, a blue ceramic plaque was installed in 1983 by the Greater London Council. The inscription reads, “Dr. Jose Rizal 1861-1896 Writer and national hero of the Philippines lived here.” Rizal Monument in Carson, California Rizal Monument in Carson California It was in December 2004 when community leaders of the Filipino-American community voted to form a Jose P. Rizal Monument Movement by erecting a Rizal statue in California. It came to fruition eight years later when the 15-ft tall was unveiled at the International Sculpture Garden in Carson. The monument was also created by Filipino artist Toym Imao. The monument aims to foster patriotism and unity among Filipinos in the USA. Jose P. Rizal Monument in Honolulu, Hawaii Rizal Monument in Honolulu A life-sized statue of Dr. Jose Rizal can also be found in Honolulu, Hawaii, specifically along the downtown Nu‘uanu Stream. Several sculptures, statues, and memorials are lined at the College Walk on North Beretania Street. The Filipina Society of Hawaii donated the statue in cooperation with Oahu Filipino Community Council and Laog City Lions Club. Rizal Marker in Hong Kong Rizal Historical Marker in Hong Kong A marker that honors Jose Rizal can also be found in Hong Kong. Rizal also made history here, as it is where he reportedly planned the La Liga Filipina, a civic organization. It was also in Hong Kong where he practiced as an ophthalmic surgeon and spent some time with his family before he got arrested by the Spaniards. The marker says that Rizal lived in his area with his family from 1891 to 1892. Place Jose Rizal in Paris, France Place Jose Rizal in Paris via Wikimedia cc Another park that features the Philippine national hero is Place Jose Rizal in Paris, France. It is known to many that Jose Rizal spent some time in France in the apartment of his dear friend Valentin Ventura. It was in France when Rizal was inspired by French writers and where he wrote manuscripts and articles for La Solidaridad. The marker of Place Jose Rizal is opposite the apartment where he stayed during his time in Paris. Dr. Jose Protacio Rizal’s bust in Sydney, Australia Bust of Jose Rizal by Hal Holman in Sydney, Australia By Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, cc Installed in 1995, this bronze bust was made by artist Haldane Holman. Rizal is among a series of busts displayed in Plaza Iberoamericana and was gifted by John Holland from the Philippines to the City of Sydney in 1995. On the plaque, an inscription mentions the hero’s name, birthdate, birthplace, and date of death. The note also says, “Dr. Jose Rizal was the first to inspire Filipinos to regard themselves as a nation and to cherish the Philippines as their fatherland.” Rizal Monument in Singapore Jose Rizal Monument in Singapore photo via Pinaoy Roadtrip Jose Rizal had a 2-day stopover in Singapore in 1882 before he left for Europe in May of the same year. In 2005, a memorial was unveiled near the Asian Civilization Museum. This was to commemorate the anniversary of Jose Rizal’s birth and was initiated by the National Heritage Board of Singapore. Dr. Jose Rizal’s bronze bust in Lima, Peru Jose Rizal in Lima Peru Location: Jose Rizal Park in Lima, Peru In 2008, former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo inaugurated the first Jose Rizal Park in Lima, Peru. It is the first public park in Peru named after a national hero of a foreign country and the first to have such a monument. The bronze bust was designed by Czech sculptor Libor Pizslac who hails from Litomerice in the Czech Republic. It was donated by Hans Gunter Schoof — a German married to a Filipina from Baclayon, Bohol — who was a passionate admirer of Rizal. The bust is mounted atop a quadrilateral pedestal, decorated with four inaugural plaque markers on each side. Inscribed in one marker are the words: “Dr. Jose P. Rizal, Heroe Nacional de Filipinas, Nacionalista, Reformador Político, Escritor, Lingüística y Poeta, 1861-1896.” Statue of Dr. Jose Rizal in Mexico City Photo: Sarum074, Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International Statue of Dr. Jose Rizal in Mexico City To commemorate the historic connection between the Philippines and Mexico, a majestic statue of Dr. Jose Rizal stands proudly at Paseo de la Reforma in Mexico City. Created by Costa Rica-Mexican sculptor Francisco Zuñiga, the tribute to the Filipino national hero was inaugurated on 12 June 1967. Dr. Rizal, who visited Mexico in 1890, was deeply inspired by the country’s fight for independence from Spanish colonization and greatly admired the heroism of Mexican revolutionaries like Miguel Hidalgo and Jose Maria Morelos. His statue is a reminder of his contribution to the cause of Filipino liberation from colonial rule in the late 19th century, forever honoring the bond between the two nations. There are just a few examples of the many Jose Rizal parks, monuments, markers, and memorials around the world, which serve as a reminder of his legacy and contributions to the Philippines and the world. Have you seen any of these Rizal Monuments, Statues, and Markers outside the Philippines that are not listed here? Let us know in the comments section below! Frequently Asked Questions How many Jose Rizal monuments are there in the world? There are numerous monuments and statues dedicated to Jose Rizal, the national hero of the Philippines, located around the world. The exact number can vary over time due to new monuments being erected and changes in existing ones. Many cities in the Philippines and other countries with Filipino communities have erected monuments to honor Jose Rizal’s contributions to Philippine history and culture. Follow the Out of Town Travel Blog on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest if you want more travel-related updates. Read: Enjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished than ever. See What’s NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for your visuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS ReportData-backed trends. Generative AI demos. Answers to your usage rights questions. Our original video podcast covers it all—now on demand.Watch NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished than ever. See What’s NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for your visuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS ReportData-backed trends. Generative AI demos. Answers to your usage rights questions. Our original video podcast covers it all—now on demand.Watch Now 0 ratings0% found this document useful (0 votes)1K views23 pagesThis document lists and describes Jose Rizal monuments located around the world, including 18 in China, Spain, Canada, Germany, the US, Sri Lanka, Australia, Hawaii, Peru, and several European countries. Many commemorate Rizal’s travels and stays in these locations as a student and exile. The tallest monument is an 18-foot statue in Jinjiang, China recognizing Rizal’s Chinese ancestry. Monuments honor Rizal’s legacy over 100 years after his execution and mark the places he visited that were significant to his life and work.0 ratings0% found this document useful (0 votes)1K views23 pagesThis document lists and describes Jose Rizal monuments located around the world, including 18 in China, Spain, Canada, Germany, the US, Sri Lanka, Australia, Hawaii, Peru, and several Europe. .AI-enhanced title and description There’s this bad habit many Filipino travellers are guilty of: Comparing our country to others. Every so often, we traverse on foreign soil and gape at what other nations do better than ours. We wonder why we can’t have the convenience of Singapore’s public transportation. Or the cleanliness of Japan’s streets. The livability of Canada. The discipline of Switzerland. Because of this, we tend to overlook the strengths of the Philippines. But, the world never forgets. As a testament to this, here is a list of many Filipino . Also read: Bonifacio Day: Why It’s Important & How Travellers Can Celebrate It 1. Rizal Monument, Madrid Image credit: Luis Garcia Our national hero is of great influence — not only in the Philippines, but also globally. It’s unsurprising that several countries celebrate Dr. Jose Rizal’s life through the numerous erected in his honour. One of the most famous Rizal monuments stands in Madrid, Spain. This city was where Rizal lived for almost a decade after finishing medical school at the University of Santo Tomas. To pay homage to the life of our national hero, the city commissioned Filipino sculptor Florante Caedo to build an intricate bronze statue of Rizal. 2. Rizal Monument, Hong Kong Image credit: Tksaven Rizal is celebrated in Hong Kong, where he first planned the founding of La Liga Filipina. Reportedly, it was also here where the hero drafted Filipino translations of Noli Me Tangere and El Filibusterismo. During his years in Hong Kong, Rizal exercised his profession as an ophthalmic surgeon. His family joined him here for a short while before the Spaniards arrested him. 3. Rizal Monument, Japan Image credit: Dandy1022 In 1998, Tokyo City unveiled a bronze bust of Rizal at Hibiya Park. The statue stands right where the hero stayed for 45 days before travelling to Europe. According to historians, Rizal immersed in the Japanese culture during his stay. He learned about the culture, enjoyed the arts, and interacted with the people. Unsurprisingly, Rizal gained a lover in the country. Her name was Seiko Usui, and she was the epitome of everything the hero loved about Japan. 4. Rizal Monument, London Image credit: Spudgun67 Rizal crafted some of his greatest works in London. It’s only apt for him to be recognised here first and foremost as a writer. With almost a year of residing in the city, Rizal improved his English and wrote several pieces for La Solidaridad. The memorial of Rizal in London is placed at the historical home of the Beckett family. As many remember, Rizal was romantically involved with Gertrude Beckett during his stay in London. 5. Rizal Monument, Paris Image credit: Chabe01 Although we consider Rizal as our national hero, he’s not much different of a traveller as us. He loved marvelling at sights and immersing with locals. He fell in love with places as much as people. But one thing most of us don’t often think about is how Rizal valued money. At 22, our national hero travelled to Paris. According to renowned Filipino historian Ambeth Ocampo, Rizal found Paris very expensive. Nevertheless, he enjoyed the city, as proved in a letter he wrote while there: “On the first day I did nothing else but walk and walk. I saw the Champs Elysées in an extensive park from the Place de la Concorde to the Arch of the Carouse, wide and long, filled with trees, with theatres on both sides in which plays and concerts are held at night, with cafes, exhibitions, flowers and plants. There, many persons go to sew under the trees or to read. There are children with their nurses, etc., etc. The Champs Elysées at night is full of people.” 6. Rizal Monument, Germany Image credit: Eugene Alvin Villar From Paris, Rizal travelled to Germany, the hero continued to write. He also attended various lectures at the University of Heidelberg, which now has a memorial in his honour. In Wilhelmsfeld, there is a park dedicated to Jose Rizal. At the heart of this park stands a full-body statue sculpted by Anastacio Caedo. 7. Rizal Monument, Chicago Image credit: David Wilson, Alanscottwalker Chicago honours Rizal with two monuments: One a bust, the other a full-body statue. The former can be found in front of the Rizal Center while the latter is in Lincoln Park. Both statues were built to commemorate the Philippine independence. Rizal has a lot more memorials and . Aside from the aforementioned destinations, Florida, Alaska, Texas, and Austria have also built historical markers after our national hero. 8. Filipino Soldiers, Korea Image credit: Aljozaejan To commemorate the Korean War, Yeoncheon County built a memorial for our brave Filipino soldiers who fought for freedom. These soldiers were part of the Philippine Expeditionary Forces to Korea (PEFTOK) and sacrificed their lives defending borders from the Chinese. The Battle of Yultong killed 15 soldiers and wounded 26 more. Fourteen soldiers also went missing during the war. 9. Apolinario Mabini, Guam Image credit: Daderot In the beautiful and historic Asan Beach Park, travellers can see a double monument of Apolinario Mabini. Then, this place was not as peaceful as it now is. In 1892, Asan Beach was a prison camp, where Filipino insurgents were exiled. These Filipinos were punished for standing their ground against the United States colonisation. Among these Filipinos was Apolinario Mabini, who was imprisoned in 1901. 10. Jose P. Laurel, Japan Image credit: GryffIndor Serving as a state guest house during the 90s, the Nara Hotel has housed several well-known personalities. Among them are Albert Einstein, Audrey Hepburn, Charlie Chaplin — and of course, late Filipino president Jose P. Laurel. In Nara Hotel’s Sakura Tearoom, travellers will find a bust statue of the politician. Laurel is best known for his service as the president of the Philippines during the time our country was a Japanese puppet state. 11. Paduka Batara, China Image credit: Fanghong, 小只只 East. Sulu King Paduka Batara, also known as Paduka Pahala, was the first king from the Philippines who was buried in China. In 1417, he travelled to the country to pay tribute to then Yongle Chinese emperor, Zhu Di. Unfortunately, Paduka Pahala contracted a mysterious disease during his trip. He eventually died in Dezhou, China. Following this, Emperor Zhu Di commanded that a tomb be built to remember the king. 12. Open Doors Monument, Israel Image credit: Department of Foreign Affairs Aiding the escape of the Jews during the Holocaust, Manuel L. Quezon was definitely a hero — not only to the Filipino people, but also to the Jews. In Tel Aviv, the Open Doors Monument stands to testify about the “Open Door” policy our late president provided for Jewish refugees. This policy saved over a thousand Jews from the horrible Nazi genocide in 1939. Till this day, the Jewish people remember the heroism of President Quezon. Also read: Historical Places Around the World Every Pinoy Should Visit Truly, there are several memorials and that commemorate the heroic deeds of our fellow people. Have you seen any of these monuments? Let us know in the comments! Featured image credit: Mu | Wikimedia Commons. In The News Entertainment Travel Society The Talk Spotlight The Great Filipino Story His Good News Today Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Jose Rizal was quite the traveler too, by Ina Louise Manto | December 29, 2022Did you know that there are quite a number of monuments of Jose Rizal around the world? As we remember our national hero and his legacy this December 30th, check out these photos of markers, landmarks, and monuments you’ll find from Asia to Europe; Jinjiang, China via The Philippine Consulate General in Xiamen, China Location: Jose Rizal Square in Jinjiang, Fujian Province, China Standing 18.61 feet tall, this monument in China is the tallest Rizal structure outside of the Philippines. This commemorative park recognizes the national hero’s Chinese roots. Rizal is a descendant of Cua Yi Lam, a Fujian native. Madrid, Spain via Wikimedia Commons Location: Avenida de las Islas Filipinas, Madrid, Spain Rizal had plenty of professions, one of which was being an ophthalmologist and surgeon. He lived and studied in Spain, where he continued studying medicine at Universidad Central de Madrid. This monument at Avenida de las Islas Filipinas and Calle Santander is identical to his Luneta monument. Montreal, Canada via Wikimedia Commons Location: Parc Mackenzie-King, Montreal, Canada This monument in Parc Mackenzie-King commemorates the centenary of the proclamation of independence of the Republic of the Philippines. Ontario, Canada via Philippine Consulate General in Toronto, Canada Location: Luneta Gardens at Boxgrove Community Park in Markham Ontario This monument was unveiled as part of the Filipino-Canadian community’s celebrations of the 121st anniversary of the declaration of Philippine Independence. Heidelberg, Germany Location: University Eye Clinic at Berghheimer StraÙe 20, Heidelberg, Germany Rizal attended lectures in ophthalmology at Alte Universitat at the University of Heidelberg. Wilhelmsfeld, Germany Location: Rizal Park in Wilhelmsfeld, Germany While studying in Heidelberg, he met Pastor Karl Ullmer, who he became friends with. From April to June 1886, Rizal stayed with the Ullmers at their home in Wilhelmsfeld, where he wrote the last chapters of Noli Me Tangere. Chicago, USA via Wikimedia Commons Location: Lincoln Park at 4900 N. Marine Drive, Chicago, Illinois This monument commemorates the 100th anniversary of Philippine independence. Colombo, Sri Lanka via TripAdvisor Location: 2 York St, Colombo, Sri Lanka If you ever find yourself in Sri Lanka, stay at the Grand Oriental Hotel in Colombo. The national hero has a suite named after him, after he stayed there in 1882. Sydney, Australia via Wikimedia Commons Location: Inside Plaza Ibero Americana at Chalmers St Path, 5010 Chalmers Street, Surry Hills, Sydney The Plaza Ibero Americana opened in 1988 to acknowledge the contribution of Spanish and Portuguese-speaking people to Australia. The plaza has two statues and 11 busts by different nations including Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Spain, the Philippines, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay, and Venezuela Maui, Hawaii via Wikimedia Commons Location: Heritage Gardens, Kepanuiwai Park, Iao Valley, Maui, Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii Rizal statue, China Cultural Plaza, Honolulu #Rappierchallenge photo by Instagram user @annietorrijos #RizalDay pic.twitter.com/y3lx6XqYvt — MovePH (@MovePH) December 30, 2015 Location: China Cultural Plaza, Honolulu Lima, Peru via Presidential Broadcast Staff - Radio Television Malacanan Location: Jose Rizal Park in Lima, Peru The Jose Rizal Park in Lima is the first public park in Peru named after a national hero of a foreign country. Carson, California Location: Carson International Sculpture Garden in Carson, California This monument was installed in commemoration of Jose Rizal’s 150th birth anniversary. Seattle, Washington via Seattle.gov Location: Jose Rizal Park at 1007 12th Ave. S, Seattle, Washington Houston, Texas via Lena Toritch Location: International Sculpture Garden, Hermann Park Conservatory, Houston, Texas The Hawkins Sculpture Walk has ten busts of notable historical figures from around the world. The park also includes full statues of Confucius, Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. Hong Kong via Wikimedia Commons Location: Rednaxela Terrace in Mid-Levels Hong Kong Rizal and his family lived in the residential area after their eviction in Calamba, Laguna in 1891. Paris, France via Wikimedia Commons Location: 9e Artt in Rue De Mauberge, Paris, France Rizal stayed in Rue Maubeuge in Paris from 1889 to 1890 with Valentin Ventura, a wealthy Pampangeno friend and member of the La Solidaridad. Rome, Italy José Rizal memorial in Rome#apatasanggre #MyDearHeartAngSimula #Castleonthehillmusivideo #WearTheCrown pic.twitter.com/NrZhTcY68k — Rerum Romanarum (6RerumRomanarum) January 23, 2017 Location: Piazzale Manila, Rome This monument was constructed in commemoration of the hero’s 150th birth anniversary. Tokyo, Japan via Wikimedia Commons Location: Hibiya Park in Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan This bust is located at the site of the Tokyo Hotel, where Rizal had stayed in February and March 1888 before traveling to Europe. Singapore via Philippine Embassy in Singapore Location: In front of the Asian Civilizations Museum at 1 Empress PI, Singapore When Rizal visited Singapore in 1882 for two days, he toured the island by carriage, visiting the old British colony — where this monument stands. London, United Kingdom via Wikimedia Commons Location: 37 Chalcot Crescent, Belsize Park, London Rizal stayed in London for less than a year with the goal to establish the formation of the Association Internationale Des Philippinistes or the Philippine Studies. Though he wasn’t able to accomplish that during his stay, his trip to London enriched Rizal, and he left Great Britain a changed man. Prague, Czech Republic via Wikimedia Commons Location: Czech National Bank, Prague, Czech Republic This bust commemorates Rizal’s 1887 trip to Prague, which was then the capital of the former Kingdom of Bohemia. While there, Rizal met with scientists, including the botanist Heinrich Wilkomm, who Rizal collaborated with during his exile in Dapitan. How many of these Rizal monuments have you visited? There is an anecdote about how, when he was a little boy, Jose Rizal was glimpsed by his sisters Olimpia, Maria and Lucia at the back of their small nipa hut in their Calamba ancestral home, busy molding some historical figures. They “laughed and teased him about his crude work.” “All right,” he told them, “laugh at me now, but in the future, see if people will make statues of me.” Those words, expressed in childhood innocence, proved strangely prophetic. They are remembered these days in the run-up to Dec. 30, when the nation commemorates the 120th death anniversary and martyrdom of Rizal. Today, we have statues and monuments of Rizal in virtually every town or city plaza around the archipelago, as well as countless monuments of stone, granite or metal not only in the Philippines but in four continents—in Asia, Europe, North America and Latin America. Rizal sculptures bearing his likeness also stand in different parts of the world, even in places he never set foot in. There are also plaques, historical markers installed in Philippine embassies in host countries, educational centers and special locations in places with overseas Filipino communities. The list of countries is too long. Rizal monuments stand today in several countries that recognize him for his significant literary and scientific contributions, wide influence, outstanding achievements, intelligence and heroism. Singapore Monument in Singapore Rizal visited Singapore four times. The first of his many visits to foreign lands was a two-day stopover in Singapore in 1882, where he went on a sightseeing of the city. He left Singapore for Europe on May 11, 1882, and returned to the city on May 17,1892. This was to be his last visit to Singapore, for not long after this, he was executed on Dec. 30, 1896. In 2005, on the anniversary of Rizal’s birth, President Nathan of Singapore and the National Heritage Board unveiled a memorial near the Asian Civilization Museum, featuring a bronze medallion of Rizal by a Filipino artist to commemorate his various sojourns in the city. Madrid Rizal monument in Madrid, Spain Madre España, of course, should have the monument of her Philippine son. Rizal stayed in Madrid for most of his European sojourn, from 1882 to 1891. He arrived in Madrid for the first time in May 1882 after his medical studies at University of Santo Tomas. In his diary, he wrote: “Madrid is one of the pleasant cities of the world; it partakes at the same time of the spirit of Europe and of the Orient.” He did literary, artistic and patriotic pursuits, despite the many attractions and joyous sounds of Madrid. A statue of the Philippine martyr and national hero stands in a prominent, well-traveled part of the Spanish capital. The Rizal monument is located in a well-lighted and landscaped 70-meter corner lot in Parque Santander along Avenida de Filipinas in downtown Madrid. The monument, similar to that in Luneta, has a four-meter-high bronze statue sculpted by Filipino artist Florante Caedo. It was unveiled on Dec. 5, 1996. The statue is placed beside the monument of the South American hero, Simon Bolivar. Hong Kong On Feb. 3, 1888, Rizal left Manila for Hong Kong. This was where he served his self-imposed exile in 1888. From December 1891 to June 1892, he lived with his family at No. 5 D’Aquilar St., No. 2, Rednaxela Terrace, where he opened a medical clinic as an ophthalmic surgeon. This site has a marker installed by Hong Kong Antiquities and Monuments Office. It reads in English and Chinese. “Dr. Jose Rizal (1861-1896) National hero of the Philippines lived in this area with his family from December 1891 to June 1892.” Japan Monument in Hibiya Park, Tokyo, Japan One of the happiest interludes in Rizal’s life was his sojourn in the Land of the Cherry Blossom for 45 days from Feb. 28 to April 13, 1888. On Feb. 18,1888, Rizal arrived in Yokahoma and registered at the grand Tokyo Hotel. He proceeded the next day to Tokyo Hotel where he was billeted from March 2 to 7, and then transferred to the Spanish Legation. He immediately worked on learning the habits, customs and tradition of the Japanese people, their culture, language, theater and commerce. He was charmed by “the natural beauty of Japan, the manners of the Japanese people, the picturesque dress and simple charm of the Japanese women, the scenic panoramas and shrines and industry of the Japanese people.” He also fell in love with a Japanese girl, “whose loveliness infused joy and romance in his sorrowing heart.” Her real name was Seiko Usui. Hibiya Park is the first Western-styled park in Japan located on a tranquil corner of the busy city of Ginza, which opened in 1903. A bust of Rizal was erected on the site of the grand hotel where he stayed in 1888. The marker reads: “DR. JOSE RIZAL NATIONAL HERO OF THE PHILIPPINES STAYED IN 1888 AT TOKYO HOTEL LOCATED AT THIS SITE. UNVEILED JUNE 19, 1961” USA Bust in Orlando, Florida Juneau head statue, Manila Square in Alaska Herman Park, Houston, Texas Rizal first saw America on April 28, 1888, and visited the cities of New York, Oakland, Reno, Chicago and Boston. He wrote in his diary: “I visited the great cities of America, with their grandiose edifices, their electric lights, and their great conceptions. America is, undoubtedly, a great country, but she has many defects.” It was reported by the Asian Journal that “monuments of Rizal stand in eight US cities: Juneau, Alaska; Kauai and Lihue in Hawaii; Chicago, Illinois; Orlando, Florida; California; Cherry Hill in New Jersey; New York City and Seattle. The seven-foot bronze statue sculpted by Filipino artist Toym de Leon Imao, mounted on a six-foot granite pedestal, is the ninth statue of Rizal in Carson City, California. It was a gift of the Philippine government to Carson City as part of the celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of the Philippine national hero. Rizal left New York for Liverpool, England, on May 16, 1888.—CONTRIBUTED To be continued. Ramon M. Roda is a retired professor of Spanish and Rizal Course. 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