

Editor's Note

3 This PHAVISMINDA Journal edition is one of celebration, of
5 looking backward and moving forward. The Philosophical Association of
6 the Visayas and Mindanao celebrates its 25th Year of existence. Our series
of articles usher us to this festive mood.

Through her article, Dr. Amosa Velez shows us where it all began. She tries to understand the human person like the persistent pleading and wondering of a child.

Br. Romualdo E. Abulad, SVD, Ph.D.'s piece is an attempt of the Filipino philosopher to appropriate St. Thomas's response to the challenges of the postmodern age. True to his being a philosopher and theologian, will St. Thomas use philosophy to respond to the postmodern stance? Or will he view it as a penumbra to the light of faith? Certainly, Br. Abulad's arguments merit earnest consideration.

Ryan Urbano sifts through the vestiges of metaphysics after it went through the meticulous eyes of postmodern critics. What is left of metaphysics? Urbano offers his insights to this question.

Gumerciendo Garciano's article grapples with Whitehead's process philosophy. The author explores the religious implications of Whitehead's thought albeit the philosopher's view on God commonly interpreted as an impersonal one. What are the plausible arguments for his contention? Garciano invites the critical readers.

Perhaps, like any celebration, a pinch of humor is quite necessary to grace its solemnity. Orlando Ali Mandane Jr. examines the *Zhuang Zi* and searches the significance of its humor for human beings. Is the article too humorous to be met with gravity or is it too serious to be taken in levity? The answer is perhaps worth the read.

Dr. Jane Gallamaso ponders upon the enigma of presence. Her piece investigates the wonder of presence in absence and the absence in presence. In the long run she clarifies some attributes presence cannot be without; and what human beings cannot afford to lose in presence.

Antonio Diluvio's contribution articulates (not) in words the ineffable. He tries to snatch the elusive-almost always at the fingertips- and

ever near *Dao*. As terms blur, he does either the metaphysics of metaphor or the metaphor of metaphysics.

Finally, as one can notice, this edition is a blend of West and East; of reflecting upon the wisdom of the past and giving a learned response to the challenges of the present; of remembering and cherishing; and of commemoration. Hopefully, the readers will be well-meaning companions of the various writers in this celebratory and intellectual journey.

Orlando Ali Mandane Jr.