



Hanap-buhay: Finding Heritage of Spirituality in the workplace in Filipino Context

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Abstract: This study investigates and tries to find heritage of spirituality in the Filipino experience of work. Work for many Filipino workers throughout history is experience as a struggle and as a survival that would not render service to nourish workers' dignity. This contradicts the faith of Catholic spirituality that work should offer service to people for them to have dignity. Through the review of relevant literature and studies, the interweaving of spirituality and work in the precolonial period had been disregarded by the system and management of feudalism and capitalism that focus on productivity and profit and not on the worker's dignity and wellbeing. However, management today has emerged from an industrial revolution and capitalist paradigm of productivity and profitability to an admission of spirituality as a relational dimension in the workplace. Spirituality at the workplace could help transform the struggle of Filipino experience of work i.e. from doing things just for the sake of doing into hanap-buhay i.e. finding life at work more than a living but a way to make the dignity of human lives reach its fullness. This is indeed a spiritual social transformation but does not only present challenges but as well opportunities to partake the works of the Creator, that amidst the struggle as Lasallians we say "Lord the work is yours!"