



At 17, what Jose Rizal described as “the great development in me of patriotic sentiments” started to manifest in his 1878 journal, *Memorias de un Estudiante de Manila*. National artist Nick Joaquin found the idea of a young Rizal “feeling self-conscious enough to write his auto-biography both funny and fearful”.

Joaquin wondered whether Rizal is “actually history in a hurry... and suffered intimations of immortality”. To this day, Rizal remains the most commemorated Filipino on Philippine stamps. From his first stamp in 1906, his portrait is a constant feature in stamp designs celebrating his life and legacy. This is why showcasing Rizal stamps is both a means to remember the grandest of Filipinos, and to revisit the country’s history along with the valued Filipino attributes that Rizal had lived by throughout his brief lifetime of 35 years.