

# INTRODUCTION TO ASIAN RESEARCH

A Power Hour Session

**Amy Carpenter**

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## FILIPINO RESEARCH Amy Carpenter

FamilySearch Wiki – Philippines Genealogy

- [https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Philippines\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Philippines_Genealogy)
- Beginning research guides, record types, historical background information, language helps, and more.
- Individual pages for each province.

### Claveria's Decree of 1849

- 21 November 1849: Governor General Narciso Claveria decreed that all Filipinos adopt standardized surnames.
- Before the decree, some surnames existed but were not consistently passed down in families.
- The *Catálogo Alfabético de Apellidos* was created & distributed for each household to choose from.
- Most standardized names appear in records from March 1850 onward.

### Main Record Types

- Catholic Church records
  - Oldest and most complete record sets; some date back to the mid-1500s.
  - Birth/Baptism, marriage, death records, also some censuses, other misc. registers.

- FamilySearch Catalog: Search location by "Philippines, Province, City/Municipality." Look for "Registros parroquiales," "Documentos eclesiásticos," etc.
- Civil Registration
  - Birth, marriage, and death records, as well as some citizenship/naturalization, adoptions, name changes, legal separations, annulments, etc.
  - Multiple starts and stops in the late 1800s, began in earnest in 1922.
  - Local Civil Registrars (LCRs) keep records and are required to send a copy to the Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA). If you can't find a copy in one place, check the other.
  - National copies from Jan 1932–Feb 1945 destroyed due to WWII. LCR copies may still exist!

### Helpful Tips

- Surnames: prior to U.S. Colonization, Filipinos followed Spanish style. Afterward, mother's maiden name became all children's middle name.
- Most records were kept during the Spanish colonization period (1565-1898) and were written in Spanish.
- *Barangay* and *Barrio* are geographic terms for divisions of cities or towns and are often included in records.

## JAPANESE RESEARCH Ryan Rockwood

Hire an expert: Legacy Tree Genealogists

(<https://www.legacytree.com/ryanr>)

Kanji recognition: Google Lens (<https://lens.google/>)

What records include the ancestral domicile? FamilySearch Wiki

([https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Japan\\_Finding\\_Town\\_of\\_Origin](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Japan_Finding_Town_of_Origin))

Finding the current town hall associated with ancestral domicile:

mykoseki.com (<http://www.mykoseki.com/find-my-koseki/>)

## CHINESE RESEARCH Kelly Renée Summers, AG®

- Interview the Family Elders
  - Does the Family have a Jiapu or Zupu?
  - What is our family name character?
  - What is the name of the Ancestral Village?
  - What are the Chinese names of parents and grandparents?
  - When did the family leave China? What is the immigration story?
- Identify the Family name in Chinese characters
- Identify the Ancestral Village
- Search Jiapu online
  - Contains: Family's history, family rules, ancestral chart, biographical information, generation poem, and more.
- Use the FamilySearch Research Wiki – Chinese
- Use the Chinese Genealogy Research Pages

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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