

The San Pedro Tunasan Estate: A Report to the President

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Hacienda de San Pedro Tunasan, an estate with 850 hectares of land, has been the source of agrarian problems for the past 50 years. To settle this, the Government of the Philippines bought the said estate from Colegio de San Jose. The residents and local leaders in the estate, contrary to the government's expectation, opposed the purchase. Aiming to solve this controversy, the Author, in his capacity as Solicitor General of the Philippines, writes on the origin of the title to Hacienda de San Pedro Tunasan based on all available records and court decisions.

In arriving to the conclusion that Colegio de San Jose is the lawful owner of Hacienda San Pedro Tunasan, the Author traces the transfer of ownership from the royal concession in favor of Don Esteban Rodriguez de Figuera, Governor of Mindanao, up to the registration of the *Titulo Real Posesorio* in favor of the Colegio de San Jose. The Author also makes a review of the judicial actions involving Hacienda de San Pedro Tunasan. The review conclusively reveals that the title of Hacienda de San Pedro Tunasan has been recognized and confirmed to belong to the Colegio de San Jose.

In light of this, the Author, as the Solicitor General of the Philippines, recognizes the title and right of possession of Colegio de San Jose over Hacienda de San Pedro Tunasan.