Figuring Catholicism: An Ethnohistory of the Santo Niño de Cebu

by Julius Bautista


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Figuring Catholicism: An Ethnohistory of the Santo Niño de Cebu explores the transformation of indigenous beliefs in the Philippines, particularly with the arrival of the Catholic Church. The book offers a nuanced understanding of the multi-faceted role of the Santo Niño de Cebu, a wooden figure brought to the islands by Ferdinand Magellan. The Santo Niño de Cebu is not only a religious artifact but also a cultural symbol that has been shaped by the interplay of different beliefs and practices. Bautista's work highlights the importance of experiential learning as a key component of religious identity formation.

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Figuring Catholicism: An Ethnohistory of the Santo Niño de Cebu provides a rich narrative that brings to life the stories of the people who have engaged with the Santo Niño de Cebu. The book draws on a variety of sources, including oral histories, religious texts, and material culture, to paint a vivid picture of the religious landscape of the Philippines. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of religion in the region, as well as for those who seek to understand the complexities of religious identity and practice in a multicultural context.