



De La Salle University - Dasmariñas

**An Analysis of the Machiavellian Elements of Acquisition and  
Maintenance of Power in the Political Leadership of Ferdinand E. Marcos**

An Undergraduate Thesis

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Janelle D. Dela Cerna

Genesis H. Olaes

Adrian M. Laserna

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**ABSTRACT****NAME OF INSTITUTION:** De La Salle University – Dasmariñas**ADDRESS:** Dasmariñas, Cavite, 4115**TITLE:** An Analysis of the Machiavellian Elements of Acquisition and Maintenance of Power in the Political Leadership of Ferdinand E. Marcos**PROPONENTS:** Janelle D. Dela Cerna

Adrian M. Laserna

Genesis H. Olaes

**FUNDING SOURCE:** Parents**Cost:** Php. 7, 500.00**DATE STARTED:** October 2003**DATE COMPLETED:** March 2005**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:****General:**

This study tries to answer how the Machiavellian elements of acquisition and maintenance of power were manifested in the political leadership of Ferdinand Marcos.

**Specific:**

Specifically it seeks to answer the following questions:

- 1.) What are the events and circumstances that contributed to Marcos' rise to power and in his prolonged stay to power?



2. How did the Machiavellian element of acquisition of power manifested in Marcos' rise to power?

3. How did the Machiavellian element of maintenance of power reflected in the political leadership of Marcos particularly in his imposition of Martial Law?

#### **SCOPE AND DELIMITATION:**

This study will focus on the Machiavellian elements of acquisition and maintenance of power in the political leadership of Ferdinand Marcos. The books written by Machiavelli and Marcos were used as primary sources.

#### **METHODOLOGY:**

The researchers used the descriptive analysis and historical method in the process of completing this paper.

#### **MAJOR FINDINGS:**

1. There are different events and circumstance that contributed to Marcos' rise to power. His accomplishments as a young student and his experience as a politician led to his prolonged stay in power.
2. The use of skills and opportunity, family connections, support of the people and displaying all acts in grand manner were just some of the Machiavellian elements of acquisition of power manifested in Marcos' rise to power.
3. The stability and welfare of the state is the primary reason for the imposition of martial law. The same reason, according to Machiavelli, why a ruler



is entitled to use all necessary means to maintain his power. These means were also manifested in the political leadership of Marcos.

**CONCLUSION:**

After an in-depth study and thorough analysis, we arrived at the conclusion that indeed, the Machiavellian elements are manifested in the political leadership of Ferdinand Marcos. The findings we have discovered had confirmed our assumptions of the Machiavellian nature of Ferdinand Marcos, from his student days until his last days in power. Based on the primary sources the researchers utilized, which are the written works of Machiavelli and Marcos, both of them considered the security and welfare of the state in order to justify their political philosophies.



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