

## TEILHARD STUDIES

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Eulalio Baltazar traces an interest in Teilhard and liberation theology to his educational and cultural backgrounds. In 1945 he received a B.Sc. in agriculture from the University of the Philippines. The scientific education he acquired led to the formation of an evolutionary and dynamic outlook. He next entered a Jesuit seminary in the Philippines to partake of a decade of rigorous academic and spiritual training.

In 1955 Baltazar was sent to the United States to the Jesuit theological college in Woodstock, MD. However, his dissatisfaction was growing with a static Aristotelian-Thomistic theology which did not accord with an evolutionary science. A crisis of faith ensued which culminated in his leaving the seminary in 1959 before ordination.

The author then enrolled in Georgetown University to pursue a doctorate in philosophy and to attempt to resolve the intellectual conflicts. His crisis was finally resolved by a reading of Teilhard's book *The Phenomenon of Man* with its unique synthesis of religion and science. So inspired, he began a comprehensive study of Teilhard's thought and wrote a Ph.D. dissertation on "The Method of the Phenomenon of Man." He has subsequently written two books of Teilhardian scholarship: *Teilhard and the Supernatural* and *God in Process*.

Dr. Baltazar's interest in liberation theology comes from his concern for the liberation of the oppressed third-world peoples, which includes the black minorities in the United States. This concern led him to choose to teach at the University of the District of Columbia, an academic institution primarily for black students. Through a philosophy of process derived from Teilhard, Professor Baltazar has also done research on the many sources of racism, which can be found in his book *The Dark Center*.

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