



**11th
Igorot
International
Consultation**
Bontoc, Mountain Province
April 6-9, 2016



**Understanding Each Other,
Celebrating Together**

IIC 11 PROGRAM of ACTIVITIES

April 5, 2016 Tuesday

Golf tournament - Lepanto Range, Mankayan - c/o Engr. R Bomasang, Edwin Abeya, Resident Manager Engr. Tomas Consolacion et. al.

April 6 - Wednesday

Youth Immersion Day - KATAGOWAN CARAVAN (8am - 5pm) c/o Patrick McDonough
2pm - Registration starts : Teng-ab and Ridgebrook
7pm - Reception Dinner, Orientation on IIC 11, Cordillera Folklore and ISP Evening

April 7 - Thursday

MOUNTAIN PROVINCE DAY CELEBRATION

Parade and program

12 noon - Lunch with the community c/o the Mt. Prov. Government
Lang-ay Festival Cultural Exposition
2:30 pm - Registration resumes : Ridgebrook Hotel

5 pm - IIC 11 OPENING CEREMONIES

- Entrance and Acknowledgement of Participants - Intermission Number - MPSPC Choir
- Invocation - The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines Clergy Choir
- "Lupang Hinirang" - MPSPC Choir
- Welcome Remarks - The Hon. Franklin C. Odsey, Mayor of Bontoc
- Opening Statement - Mia Abeya, Head - COE IGO Intl
- Message from the Host - The Hon. Leonard G. Mayaen, Governor, Mountain Province
- Introduction of the Keynote Speaker - Roger Sacyaten
- Keynote Message - The Hon. Maximo Dalog, Congressman - Mt. Prov.
- Acknowledgements - Mr. Manuel Ano, Head - COE IGO Phil.
- Emcees - Ursula Daoey and Alpine Killa

7:00 pm - Governor's Dinner - Ridgebrook Hotel

April 8 - Friday - IIC Sessions All Day - at Teng-ab

8:00 am Sessions on Trauma Center and Emergency Medical Services
1:00 Philippine Migrants and OFW Concerns
Business meeting, election, etc. - Agenda c/o IGO Intl.

4:30pm - Closing Ritual

with the Passing of the IIC gong c/o Mr. Ceasar Castro, Mr. Stone Pooten, Mr. Manuel Ano and Vice Governor Bonifacio Lacwasan with the IGO Youth and Hawaii Host Representative

5:30 pm - Congressman's Dinner - Teng-ab

Introduction

This Souvenir Program is a production of the Provincial Government of Mountain Province.

In keeping with the theme of IIC 11, "Understanding Each Other, Celebrating Together," the souvenir program attempts, on the one hand, to encapsulate the IGO and the different IICs already held, to enable those who are not of the IGO to understand the organization and the IIC. It hopefully will also spark some interesting recollections on the part of IGO members and participants of previous IICs.

On the other hand, this souvenir program also presents some of the different tourism offerings of the municipalities, to enable our overseas visitors to appreciate the innate beauty and mystique of our province, in the hope that they take the time to visit these wonderful places. We also hope that in the time they are in the Philippines, they shall try to better understand the people they left behind, and to appreciate the developments in the villages, municipalities and the province as a whole.

As we try to understand each other further, our celebration of the Foundation Day of Mountain Province on April 7, 2016, the Lang-ay Festival from April 1-9, 2016, and IIC 11, which is also a celebration of coming home and camaraderie, all the more significant.

IIC11 in Mountain Province

It was in IIC9 in 2012, held in Baguio, that the Head of the IGO International Council of Elders (COE), Ms. Mia Apolinar Abeya, suggested that the IIC11 be held in Bontoc. Members of IGO Philippines, notably the head of its COE, Mr. Manuel Ano, raised concerns that the preparations for IICs are taxing to the hosts and the volunteers expected to do the preparation. IGO Phil suggested that IICs in the Philippines should not be as often as every four years. Nonetheless, overseas IGO members were warm to the prospect of holding IIC11 in Bontoc in 2016.

In IIC10 in Vienna (hosted by Igorot Austria), no member of the IGO Phil COE was able to attend. However, Mountain Province Governor Leonard G. Mayaen was invited as one of the speakers in the consultation. In the course of the discussions, he was informed of the decision to have IIC11 in Bontoc. In the absence of IGO Phil COE, the Governor accepted the challenge and privilege of hosting IIC11, as the activity will help promote the tourism industry in the province and the patronage of the IIC participants will benefit local businesses. Further, the IIC participants, particularly those coming from overseas, will be bringing with them concepts, ideas and proposals that should be considered in the development plans of the province.

Governor Mayaen received the IIC gong from Igorot Austria to symbolize the passing of the responsibility to host the IIC. He assured that the Provincial Government of Mountain Province shall do what it can to help make IIC 11 a success, and told the IIC participants in Vienna that political leaders in Mountain Province would be willing to help the IIC by sponsoring meals and snacks; and suggested that what will be served should be simple and consistent with indigenous practice, "the Igorot way," meaning the menus will be similar to the "watwat" of indigenous feasts. The IIC10 participants enthusiastically welcomed the idea.

IIC 11 is being co-sponsored by IGO Philippines and the Provincial Government of Mountain Province.

As part of the ceremonies of IIC11, Vice Governor Bonifacio Lacwasan, representing the Mountain Province Government, and IGO Phil will pass the symbolic gong to the IIC Youth, who, with BIBAK Hawaii, will host IIC 12.

by Gary A. Pekas, Project Leader, IIC11 Souvenir Program



**THE IGOROT GLOBAL
ORGANIZATION
& THE LGU OF
MOUNTAIN PROVINCE**



Republic of the Philippines
MOUNTAIN PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR

Invite you to

THE 11th IGOROT INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION (IIC 11)

On

April 6 to 8 , 2016 in Bontoc, Mountain Province.

Any interested person is invited and is welcome to the Consultation, regardless of one's preferred ethnic identity or national origin. IIC 11 Registration is now ongoing.

Registration Fees:

Overseas Participants: US \$150.00

Local Residents: PhP 1,000.00

PhP 500.00 (5-15 years old)

The fees are inclusive of the convention kit and materials, lodging, meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, morning and afternoon coffee time/snacks, and counterpart donation to the IGO Scholarship Program. The fees apply for April 6-8 only. Early arrival and late departure will be borne by the participants.

There are additional meal donations for all participants during the IIC 11 and the celebration of Mountain Province Day and Lang-ay.

Welcome everyone! Come One, Come All!

Accommodations:

Accommodation arrangements will be done at Teng-ab. Payment for lodging is included in the registration fee for overseas participants. For those who cannot be accommodated in Teng-ab or those who prefer to stay with relatives, friends, or in other hotels, inns in Mountain Province, kindly indicate in the registration form. Adjustment of fees will be done during the registration.

Salamat! Matago-tago takò Am-in ☺

For information regarding IIC registration and other activities, kindly contact:

IGO-Philippines :

Manuel Ano # 0939 129 8328

Salma Martin # 0999 883 8748

Ursula Daoey # 0915 495 4046

Ryan Mangusan # 0926 610 3864

IGO-International - Lepanto Golf Tournament (April 5, 2016)

IGO Scholarship Program (ISP) & Cordillera Folklore Project

Rufino Bomasang # 0917 837 0970

Pureza G. Egmalis # 0935 665 3216

Gaston Kibiten # 0921 728 8815

Office of the Provincial Governor – Hon. Leonard Mayaen, Bontoc, Mountain Province

c/o Gary Pekas # 0947 379 3700

Theme: "Understanding Each Other, Celebrating Together."



MESSAGE

Mountain Province is honored to be the host of the 11th Igorot International Consultation (IIC) of the Igorot Global Organization (IGO). It is a great opportunity for our fellow Igorots from different parts of the globe to visit our province and join us as we commemorate the 47th Mountain Province Day on April 7, 2016. The celebration of the Lang-ay Festival from April 1-9 would also provide us all opportunities to relearn and understand better our indigenous culture.



While we live in a global society, we still continue to survive, prosper and gather as one family. Our legacy of values was not eroded by modernization as evidenced by this annual reunion. I am proud to say, that we still are bonded by that invisible filament of interconnectedness – our rich cultural bequest.

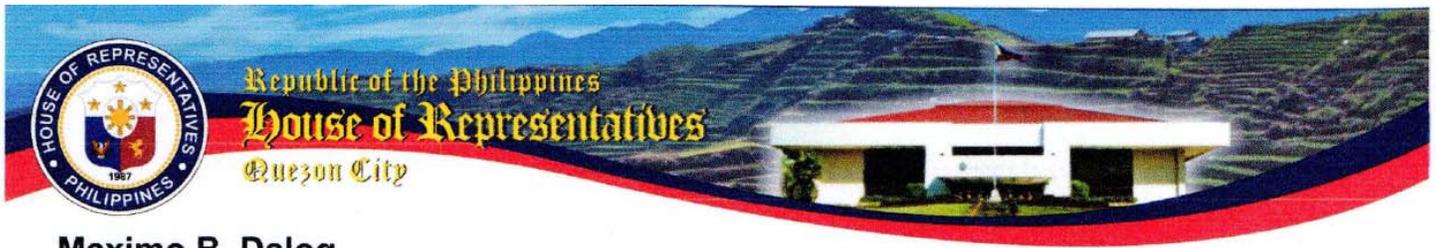
May we continue to grow in awareness of one another; may the distinct endowments which distinguish us as a people, continue to inspire and enable us to work as one towards progress; and may we continue mastering the necessary goodwill to achieve that global village blessed with a culture of peace and unity and nourished by the diversities that enrich our lives.

We hope that the consultation will be a success, and that the IGO continue to help make Mountain Province and the whole Cordillera a better place.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard G. Mayaen", written over a horizontal line.

LEONARD G. MAYAEN

Governor



Maximo B. Dalog
REPRESENTATIVE
LONE DISTRICT, MOUNTAIN PROVINCE

Message

11TH IGOROT INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION

April 8, 2016, Bontoc, Mountain Province



We express our profound gratefulness to all of you for choosing Bontoc, Mountain Province as the venue of the 11th Igorot International Conference to coincide with the 49th commemoration of the Foundation Day of the province and the 11 th Lang-ay Festival.

Your choice of the venue is befitting an odyssey towards the affirmation of our roots and racial origin - as Igorots. It is hoped that as you are back home we will be afforded the opportunity to understand each other and celebrate our oneness as a people with common history and cultural heritage we are all proud of.

Our humble province has been once the center of our history and culture and seat of governance of the old Mountain Province and now Cordillera provinces that include the provinces of Benguet, Ifugao, Mountain Province, Kalinga, and Apayao with Bontoc as the capital.

My family and I join the officialdom and people of Mountain Province in welcoming all the participants to the conference confident that, after all have been said and done, we will have attained our theme which is "Understanding Each Other, Celebrating Together".

We commend the organizers, the Igorot Global Organization, and all those who in one way or another contributed to the success of this conference and making this occasion very meaningful and significant.

We also earnestly ask for the contribution of everyone in our endeavour to all together - hand in hand work for the attainment of our beloved province - moving forward for progress.

By the grace of the almighty God, "Gawis ay Mountain Province".

MAXIMO B. DALOG

Gawis ay Mountain Province

Chairman

Committee on North Luzon Growth Quadrangle

Vice Chairman

Committee on Tourism
Committee on National Cultural Communities

Member

Committee on Accounts
Committee on Basic Education and Culture
Committee on Higher and Technical Education
Committee on Public Works and Highways
Committee on Reforestation

Rm. 219, North Wing, House of Representatives
Batasan Hills, Quezon City
Telefax: 931-5197, 931-5001 Local 7399
Residence: 951-9045
dalog.mb@congress.gov.ph





Igorot Global Organization

Greetings to the Participants of the 11th IIC in Bontoc, Mountain Province



The Igorot Global Organization (IGO) is grateful to The Offices of the Governor and Congressman of the Mountain Province and IGO Philippines for hosting the 11th Igorot International Consultation (IIC) in this, our beloved town of Bontoc.

The theme of this year's consultation, "Understanding Each Other, Celebrating Together" is indeed fitting for the occasion as we come together to renew relationships, commune with each other and celebrate our culture together. It also comes at an opportune time when we are met with various challenges which affect us as a community. For indeed our cultural values have taught us that when challenges affect the core existence of a community, we need to come together as sons and daughters of an ethnic tribe that has existed through the years because of its perseverance and innate ability to survive.

I would like to take this opportunity to applaud Governor Maya-en and Congressman Dalog who both continue to serve and lead the people of the Mountain Province in the tradition of our Igorot forefathers who have protected this community by instilling among its descendants a strong set of cultural and moral values. It is, after all, this cultural heritage that defines us and makes us who and what we are today. It is this cultural heritage that keeps us rooted and keeps us coming back to be renewed in its moral fabric and to celebrate a culture that has identified us. In coming together, we are able to engage

all members of our ethnic group in constant dialogue and are able to experience opportunities for an exchange of ideas and thoughts on how to improve our daily lives wherever we live.

There are two main topics that will be presented during this consultation. One addresses the opportunity for us, as a village and as a people to form a partnership toward the establishment of a Model Emergency Medical Service and Trauma Care Center in Bontoc for the Cordilleras. Already, Governor Maya-en and Congressman Dalog have given their full support to this noble cause. Their support is key and vital to this cause. This is a project that is critical to our people in the Cordilleras as to some, it could be a matter of life or death. I, therefore, ask all of you to support this project as your participation is also a key factor in saving the lives of others. The other topic addresses another opportunity for us to provide ways in which to send our indigent Igorot children to college under the IGO's Scholarship Program and to help them land gainful employment after graduation. I know that the dream of all parents and grandparents is to equip our children with an education that would enable them to secure gainful employment so that they too, can support their future families. For such is the circle of life!

Together, we can find ways in which we could help to enhance life in the Cordilleras and ways in which we could all excel. After this consultation, I hope we could all return to our homes, renewed once again in the beauty of our culture and strengthened in our resolve to help each other. For it is only when we pull together as one that we are able to keep the culture preserved and our posterity secure.

On behalf of the IGO, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all of you, and wish you an enjoyable, fruitful, and successful consultation.

Sapay koma ken Kabunian, ta matagotago tako am-in!

Mia Apolinar Abeya
Head, Council of Elders
IGO International



MESSAGE

Greetings from the municipality of Sabangan!

The theme for this 11th Igorot International Consultation held in our very own Province, **“Understanding Each Other, Celebrating Together”** is very much appropriate for the occasion indeed!

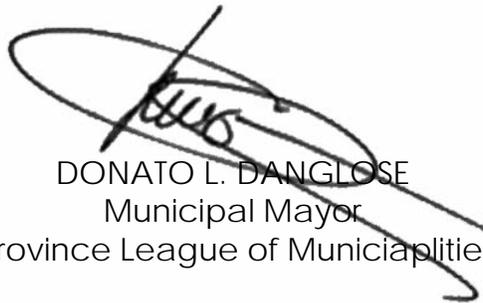
Looking at it intrinsically, it’s just one description of our culture and practices. We love to be together. We happily celebrate one’s success together. Our unsolicited and unconditional moral, physical and financial support to the late Marky Cielo and Jerick

Sigmaton that significantly contributed to their instant fame is an overt manifestation of how Igorots understand each other. Our lowland brothers were

amazed at the patronage coming from Rockville, Maryland, United State of America, Tokyo Japan, Hong Kong, Middle East countries, Alaska and from the other parts of the world.

We tend to defy the law of gravity because we tend to stick somehow together no matter how far we are to each other. This occasion proves one thing for sure; the Igorot blood in us is dominant in shaping our personal characters and ideals.

Without so much ado, in behalf of my family and the different municipalities of Mountain Province, the undersigned ecstatically conveys our greetings to one and all on this celebration of 11th Igorot International Conference in the Province of Mountain Province.



DONATO L. DANGLOSE
Municipal Mayor
Mountain Province League of Municipalities President





Republic of the Philippines
Mountain Province
Municipality of Bontoc

Office of the Municipal Mayor

MESSAGE



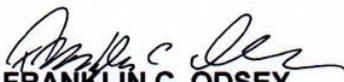
From the people and officialdom of Bontoc ay Kalalaychan, we welcome the participants to the 11th Igorot International Consultation (IIC) from all parts of the country and the world. Holding the IIC in Bontoc, Mountain Province brings great honor and pride to our town and people. This historic gathering evokes memories of old when Bontoc was the capital of the Old Mountain Province, serving as center of government, education, and commerce of the entire Cordilleras. It is timely that said Consultation coincides with the celebration of the 49th Foundation Day of Mountain Province and the Lang-ay Festival so that it becomes a grand homecoming of our kakailiyans with friends and kin.

This year's theme of "Understanding Each Other, Celebrating Together" is in keeping with the Igorot values of harmony and happiness. Even with differences in language and traditions, the different Igorot tribes share common value systems

which have enabled them to thrive wherever they are in the world. In this light, the IIC becomes even more important as an avenue for understanding and helping each other, and for celebrating success, amidst challenges in the world. It also becomes a productive forum to discuss issues of our people here and abroad and how communities can be helped to grow. Finally, its role as a venue for enriching our culture is strengthened with the participation of both young and old.

We wish a successful holding of the IIC and may your stay in Bontoc be productive, memorable, and fun-filled!

Matakho-takho tako am-in!


FRANKLIN C. ODSEY
Municipal Mayor





Republic of the Philippines
MOUNTAIN PROVINCE
BONTOC

Hon. Bonifacio C. Lacwasan Jr.
*Vice-Governor, Presiding Officer,
 Chairman, Committee on Budget
 and Appropriations, Public Works,
 Highways and Infrastructure*

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Chairman, Committee on Agriculture

Hon. Romeo M. Pagedped
*Chairman, Committee on Women,
 Senior Citizens, Differently-abled and
 Family Relations*

Sectoral Representatives

Hon. Paul F. Farong-ey
*President, Liga ng mga Barangay,
 Chairman, Committee on
 Barangay Affairs*

Hon. Evelyn L. Taclobao
*President, Councilor's League
 Chairman, Committee on Municipal
 Affairs*

Hon. Alfredo S. Ramon
*Indigenous Peoples Representative
 Chairman, Committee on IPs*

Legend:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Present | On Leave |
| △ | ☆ |
| On Official
Business | Absent |

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF MOUNTAIN PROVINCE HELD AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, BONTOC ON TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016

“RESOLUTION NO. 2016-081

A RESOLUTION INVITING THE MEMBERS OF THE IGOROT GLOBAL ORGANIZATION (IGO)-INTERNATIONAL TO TAKE PART IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 49TH FOUNDATION DAY AND THE LANG-AY FESTIVAL, 2016

WHEREAS, the Provincial Governor informed the Sangguniang Panlalawigan that the Provincial Government of Mountain Province together with the Igorot Global Organization Philippines Chapter (IGO Phil) will be hosting the 11th Igorot International Conference (IIC), an activity of the IGO-International which will coincide with the 49th Foundation Day Anniversary of the province on April 7 and the Lang-ay Festival, 2016;

WHEREAS, this Body was pleased to receive such information as this will be the most opportune time for our brothers and sisters living all over the world to come to Mountain Province and be one with us in celebrating these twin activities and to witness the presentations of the ten (10) municipalities, portraying our rich cultural heritage, which we are truly proud of and which binds us together as one people;

Now therefore, the Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Mountain Province, on motion unanimously seconded

RESOLVED, to invite, as they hereby cordially invite, the members of the Igorot Global Organization (IGO)-International to take part in the celebration of the 49th Foundation Day Anniversary of the province and the Lang-ay Festival, 2016.

RESOLVED, further, to forward this resolution to Mrs. Mia A. Abeya, President, IGO-International through Mr. Manuel Ano, President, IGO Philippines Chapter, Baguio City.

CARRIED, March 1, 2016”

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE COPY OF THE RESOLUTION DULY ENACTED BY THE SANGGUNIANG ON MARCH 1, 2016:

ALFARETTA D. DIAZ
 Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED TO BE DULY ADOPTED:

BONIFACIO C. LACWASAN JR.
 Vice Governor
 Presiding Officer



Igorot Global Organization

The Igorot Global Organization is a non-profit entity based in the United States with members from across the globe who trace their indigenous ancestry from the Cordillera Administrative Region of the Philippines.

MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve for future generations the diverse heritage of the Igorot people and proactively promote their upliftment, advancement and interests and those of related people.

VISION

To be the advocate of Igorot rights and causes – linking Igorots and related people worldwide

THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS (COE)

1. Mia Abeya, President
2. Diman Felipe, VP; Chair, Scholarship and Fund Raising Committee
3. Patrick McDonough, CEO
4. Pureza Egmalis, CFO
5. John Dyte, PRO
6. Brigitte Busaing, Secretary; Chair, Membership Committee
7. Marjorie Guidangen-Akistoy, Chair, Education and Culture Committee; and Head, Membership Committee Europe
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9. Edith Esteban, Head Membership Committee USA
10. Helen Stewart, Head Membership Committee Canada
11. Ryan Mangusan, Chair Youth Committee
12. Fe Lacbawan, Chair Audit Committee
13. Mark Leo, Chair Constitution and Bylaws Committee
14. Gloria Simon, Chair Nomination and Election Committee
15. Michael Wandag, Vice-Chair Education and Culture

IIC 1

Looking to the future of the Igorots

West Covina, California, USA
September, 1995

Hosted by BIBAK Los Angeles, IIC-1 was held in September 1995 in West Covina, California, and was attended by about 500 participants from the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, and the Philippines. The conference theme was, "Looking to the future of the Igorots". The topics of discussion and other major parts of the program included:

1. Culture and Igorots
2. Profile of the Igorots Today in America
3. Religion and the Igorot
4. Search for a Common BIBAK Identity
5. The Proposed Philippine Cordillera autonomy

6. "Inom Ni Bodong" in which the various Igorot dances were presented within the context of the forging of a Kalinga peace pact

In summarizing the Consultation, Dr. Arturo Pacho, Executive Director of the Filipino American Public Affairs Council in Los Angeles, who chaired a team of outside observers/evaluators, wrote:

The positive benefits from the consultation conference were enormous. The benefits may be summarized as:

1. Information
2. Appreciation
3. Awareness
4. Action

The participants gained valuable information on the profile of the Igorots today in America, the culture and history of the Igorots, and the geography of the Cordillera. This was crucial to achieve an understanding of where the Igorots are now and where they are heading.

(Source: igorot.com)



To ISP Donors and Supporters from an ISP scholar

From Erin Joy Tinacba
September 23, 2013

Good day!

I am Erin Joy Tinacba. one of your scholars for five years. I entered the University of the Philippines-Diliman back in 2008 and I graduated BS Applied Physics Major in Material Science last May 2013. Today, I am taking up MS Material Science Engineering in UP Diliman.

I would like to thank you for your financial support when I was taking up my undergraduate studies. Because of you, my dream to finish my studies came true. You did not know me personally but you never ceased to support me. You have inspired me to always help the needy. And it is my dream that one day. I will be able to help Other students also in finishing their studies.

May God bless YOU and your family more. I hope that one day. I'll be able to personally say my thank you to

The ISP Board of Trustees

The Board is accountable to the IGO COE.

Philippines

1. Gaston Kibiten - Chairperson
2. Ursula Daoey~ - Co-chairperson
3. Pureza Eamalis - Secretary
4. Peter Paul Degay - Treasurer
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10. Brigitte Busaing - Member

USA

11. John Dyte - Member
12. Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand - Member
13. Claria Calapan Magueta - Member

IIC 2

Respecting Our Heritage: Adapting to our Environment

Arlington, Virginia, USA
July, 1997

IIC-2 was held in Arlington, Virginia, in July 1997, with about 500 representative Igorots around the world, including about a dozen politicians from the Cordillera, in attendance. Hosted by BIBAK-DC, the theme of the Consultation was "Respecting Our Heritage: Adapting to our Environment." Topics discussed with speakers and panelists included: "Mountains, Beauty and Culture,"; "Exploring Cultural Heritage and Identity;" "Arts and Culture;" "Adapting to New Environment in the Health Profession, in the Military, in Business, in Engineering;" "Political Empowerment;" "Bridging the Generational Cultural Gap;" other topics, and a dialogue with the Philippine delegates.

Summing up his impressions of IIC-2, Claus Nabert of Canada said: "The conference demonstrates many things. First and foremost, a coming of age for Igorots throughout the world. No longer are we a bunch of fragmented tribes more intent on making war with one another than on living in peace; instead we are a strong, united people developing a strong, informed united voice to be heard in the future. It demonstrates that our values and traditions are not only alive and well, but that they are also flourishing and that we are proud to be part of them. It demonstrates to the world that we have come of age."

And Carolyn Bacdayan of Connecticut says: "Other highlights for me were Ambassador Rabe's commendation and challenge to Igorots to recognize their significant place in the Philippine cultural scene, and to participate in the nation's economic and political life."

BIMAK DC, the host of IIC 2, and other US East Coast Igorot organizations have been active participants in Philippine Embassy and United Nations events. Photo below shows BIMAK DC members at the Passport DC Around the World Embassy Tour on 2 May 2015. (Phil Embassy photo release)



Barlig



*Above: View at the peak of Mount Amuyao Photo courtesy of Barlig LGU.
Below: Monyopoyop Falls (PTO photo)*



*By Jennifer Arud and Provincial
Tourism Office*

Barlig is found in the eastern part of Mountain Province. The land area of this municipality is 36,035 hectares which is mainly covered with mossy forests. There are abundant flora and fauna found in the place. Because of this, the place is a perfect eco-tourism destination.

Farming is the main livelihood in the locality and people cultivate heirloom rice which farmers proudly export to the United States of America because of its high demand.

Barlig is blessed with a stretch of landscapes composed of towering mountains that seem to cuddle its inhabitants. The beauty of the topography is unique. What nature gives promotes healthy living – the abundance of fresh air needed to survive is credited to the vast forests that surround Barlig. The same forests are watersheds that supply the place with overflowing water, an important motivation to protect the forests. To mention a few of



Lake Tufob (PTO photo)

the natural scenic spots, there are hot springs with colorful limestone formations, the different waterfalls where the people may have refreshing baths, lakes that provide a relaxing atmosphere, the summit of Mount Amuyao for those who have the passion to scale heights, and a lot more. Specially precious is the lush vegetation of the place – the mossy forests that serve as habitats for many species.

Places of Interest

Majestic Mount Amuyao stands 2,702 masl. It is the 10th highest mountain in the Philippines. This mountain is considered a major climb by hikers and it is rated 7/9 in terms of level of difficulty. Trekking time is 6-7 hours.

Lake Tufob is also one promising eco-tourism spot in the area because of its romantic and magical ambiance. It is believed to be the crater of a dormant volcano and the lake is surrounded by lush and virgin mossy forest.

Siblaw Taraw Quicksand- 3 hours hike from the Barangay passing through dense and mossy forest.

Monkingob Waterfalls - Found at the foot of Mount Amuyao between two mountains. The falls maintain its water volume even in the dry summer season.

Mornang Hot Spring - a 30-minute walk from the National Road that is accessible through pathways. A favored picnic site.

Mornang Waterfalls- a 20-meter high falls just

Kutlib Waterfalls - This short-drop waterfalls descends to a deep narrow pool.

Tomallan Falls - 3 kilometers hike from the barangay.

Allob Waterfalls- 20 meter high falls with natural pool, 1 hour hike from Brgy. Latang through dense forest.

Lias Marker - This was established by the Philippine Historical Institute that commemorates the valor of Lias people resisting Spanish incursions in the 19th century and Japanese forces during World War II, found at the school grounds in Brgy. Lias Silangan.

Amchuwichun Falls- Located at the eastern part of Lias. It is a 3-4 hours hike from the village.

Murmuring Stone - This stone located at Challos Rice Fields at barangay Lias Kanluran. Reached after a 1-hour hike from the village passing through irrigation dikes and rice fields.

Karanag Falls- Situated at the Western Part of Lias known for its serene environment and suitable picnic site. Only 10-15 minutes hike from Lias.

Amfitayok Waterfalls - Located at Barangay Kaleo, Kadaclan. An hour's hike from Barangay Chupac passing through rice fields. The place is suitable for swimming, picnicking, and camping.

Monyopoyop Falls - one of the scenic waterfalls of Kadaclan located just above the National Road at Barangay Lunas. It's just a 5-minute hike from the

THE STORY OF THE IGO

by Rex Botengan, shared during the 2nd Igorot Cordillera BIMAAK Europe (ICBE) Consultation, May 29, 2003

(Source: ICBE website icbe.eu)

You have asked me to share with you at this conference the story of the Igorot Global Organization, popularly known as, the IGO. I am pleased to respond to this request because IGO is the story of passionate debate, excitement, tenacity, and drama. The story is a testament to the tenacity of the Igorot in fighting for the recognition and preservation of a priceless ethnic identity.

The idea of an Igorot international organization was proposed at the 1st Igorot Consultation in West Covina in 1995. For lack of time, the proposal was tabled for the next Consultation in Virginia in 1997. At the 2nd Consultation, BIMAK DC, then headed by Mia Abeya, presented a resolution to form an umbrella organization that would kind of coordinate programs of the various Bibak/Igorot/Cordillera organizations around the world. The idea of an international organization was universally acceptable, I think by the conferees, but to name the organization "Igorot" was vehemently objected by a minority.

A clarifying resolution was then presented to change the name "Igorot International Consultation" to Cordillera International Consultation, and to name a consequent international organization "Cordillera International Organization" instead of using the term Igorot to describe such an emerging organization.

The resolution to change Igorot to Cordillera evoked a heated and passionate debate, but in the end the vote was 80% in favor of using the word Igorot, and only 20% favored Cordillera.

With the Igorot name retained, another resolution was passed to form a Committee to work the mechanics, structure, programs, and purpose of an international umbrella organization. The Chair of IIC-2, Mia Abeya, then called for volunteers to the organizing committee, which was called the Planning Committee. Rex Botengan was chosen to chair the Planning Committee to plan an international organization for presentation at the 3rd IIC in Baguio City.

The planning committee met several times to come up with a purpose, structure, bylaws, and programs of the emerging organization. But these planning sessions had been punctuated by the tenacious desire of a few to change Igorot to Cordillera. And always these planning meetings had to repeat itself by re-voting to use or not to use the word Igorot to describe the emerging organization.

The Vancouver Planning Meeting in 1999 was a dramatic one because the Philippine delegation, headed by the Chairman of the National Commission for Indigenous people, Atty. David Daoas, and the Mayor of La Trinidad, now Vice Governor Edna Tabanda, came to the Vancouver meeting armed with a Philippine resolution, signed by several civic organizations in Baguio and Mt. Province, proposing that the term Cordillera be used instead of the word Igorot. There were about 150 people at the planning meeting in Vancouver, including 55 delegates from the Philippines. After heated debate on changing Igorot to Cordillera, the dramatic vote was that only three people stood up to vote in favor of changing Igorot to Cordillera.

The final drama on the word Igorot came up at the 3rd Consultation in Baguio City in 2000. In the midst of the general assembly meeting of about 500 delegates, I was privileged to read the first resolution to form an Igorot international organization and name it, as had been previously suggested by Arthur Butic, The Igorot Global Organization. After I read the resolution, the presiding officer asked for any discussion. Nobody stood to say anything. Then the presiding officer asked, "Those who are against the resolution, please raise your hands." Lo, and behold, not even one hand was raised. – Just silence. And the chair declared, "The resolution to form an international Igorot organization, to be called The Igorot Global Organization" is passed unanimously by acclamation."

So after three years of intense debate, IGO met as an endorsed organization in Baguio City, which proceeded to approve a set of constitution and bylaws, the election of the members of the Council of Elders, and the election of Rex Botengan to be the interim chair of IGO.

IIC 3

Igorot identity and empowerment, yesterday, today and tomorrow

Green Valley Country Club, Baguio City
April 26-28, 2000

The 3rd Igorot International Consultation (IIC-3) took place in the Green Valley Resort in Baguio City on April 26-28, with the theme: "Igorot Identity and Empowerment: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." It was attended by more than 500 participants from around the world. The 3-day convention featured the presentation of papers, workshops, open forums, and general sessions. The major topics discussed included: (1) "Who Are the Igorots?", (2) Igorot Initiatives and Accomplishments," (3) Changing Times and Challenges," (4) Cultural Heritage Development, (5) What are the Immediate and Long Term Issues that the Igorots Must Address Collectively."

Resolutions

1. To accept the invitation of the IGOROT-UK to host IIC-4 in London in 2002;

2. To hold IIC-5 in St. Louis, Missouri, in 2004;
3. Endorsing the name and organization of the Igorot Global Organization (IGO);
4. Request the Dept. of Education Culture and Sports (DECS) the teaching of Igorot culture and values;
5. Launch a campaign for the redefinition of the term "Igorot" in general reference materials and dictionaries;
6. Explore the re-establishment of a dormitory for BIBAK students in Baguio;
7. Full implementation of Executive Order No. 202 - establishing an Autonomous Cordillera Region.
8. An advisory to BIBAK organizations to consider changing the monogram BIBAK to reflect the Mountain Province (instead of Bontoc), and Abra and Baguio City. Example: MABIBAK for Mountain Province, Abra, Baguio, Ifugao, Benguet, Apayao, and Kalinga.
9. IIC planners to consider holding mini consultation in towns and barrios of the Philippines to bring about grassroots participation in IIC matters.

(Source: igorot.com)



Bauko



Mount Polis At the peak, one can view the municipalities of Sagada, Sabangan and Bontoc, and the surrounding rice terraces and mountains. The sunrise scenery it offers is magnificent.

Places of Interest

Toktok Al-lan

Al-lan is believed to be a cruel giant. As punishment, Kabunian, the Igorot supreme deity, turned the giant into a rock. At a distance, the rock resembles the head of an ape.

Abatan Grotto and Tree Park

It located near the Bauko Municipal Hall and amidst of towering pine trees.

Mount Nentengle

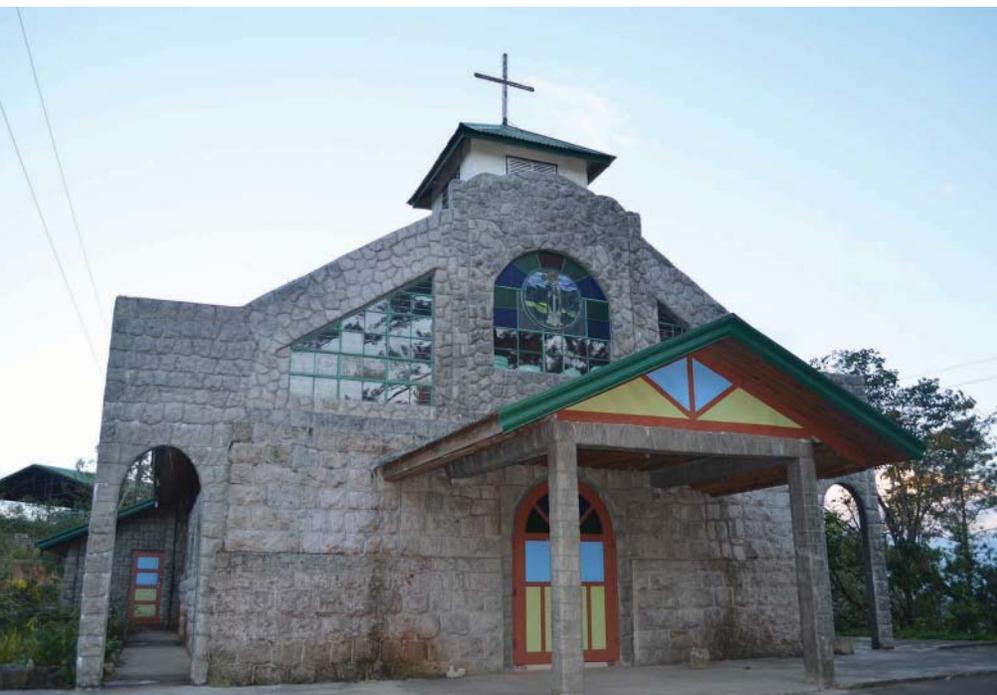
A Spanish trail connecting Tadian and Sagada passes through it. A popular trekking route.

Capnay House

Capnay house is a replica of a traditional village house.

Dap-ay viewpoint. In Balintaugan village, it offers sceneries of the “sleeping beauty” of Tinglayan, Kalinga, the historic Tirad Pass in Ilocos Sur, and Sagada.

Healing Cave – An evidence of indigenous health knowledge and practices by early iBauko, the Healing Cave in Balintaugan was where the sick were quarantined



Saint Gregory Church Made of stone walling and galvanized iron sheets as roofing. According to elders of the community, this was the community where US missionaries established the 1st Anglican

Balew Rice Terraces

BAGNEN ORIENTE, BAUKO, MOUNTAIN PROVINCE



when no hospital was available then.

Rivers and Waterfalls

- Bauko is host to several waterfalls like Paradise falls in Monamon Norte.

Rice terraces and mountains

Bauko offers many rice terraces like those in Balew, Banao, Pandey, Mapanawil, Incadang and Miligan

Banao Stone Graves

Carved names and dates of dead persons were inscribed on these stones.

Burial Caves There are burial caves in Tumbaga in Monamon Norte, Tupoak-Liyang in Bila, Layaan (45-minute hike from the Bagnen-Abatan Road),

(Photos courtesy of Bauko Mayor's Office. Text courtesy of Provincial Tourism Office)



IIC 4

Igorot Roots to the Future: Perspectives on Igorot Responses to Globalization

London, UK

June 28 - July 1, 2002

Highlights

■Keynote

Dr. Albert Bacdayan delivered a comprehensive paper on the challenges for indigenous peoples in the 21st century.

■Workshops

- *Land issues and loss of land and culture.* The workshop identified three main issues:

1. The need for the empowerment of Igorots through education, political mobilization and advocacy to encourage participation in knowing and exercising their rights as Indigenous peoples.

2. There is a struggle in the implementation of customary laws and national laws in the Cordillera when it comes to ancestral lands and political structures. There seems to be a conflict on the interpretation of the ownership, utilization and possession of land, forest and other resources.

3. There is need to review IPRA (the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of the Philippines) and how it can be implemented, practically and economically.

- *Migration Workshop*

The workshop group identified the following

issues related to migration:

1. Stereotyping of Igorots, the challenge of preserving the Igorot identity whilst living overseas and particularly to the third and second generations.

2. Challenge of accessing social and welfare benefits and entitlements, pension scheme, disability and sickness benefits.

3. Exploitation of migrant workers, abuse by recruitment agencies, issues related to illegal migrants, the aging first generation migrants.

4. Broken families, Incest, Adultery

5. Racial discrimination experienced by Igorots overseas.

- *Igorot Values and Beliefs in the Modern World: Culture on the Edge*

The speaker was Bishop Ben Botengan and the workshop facilitated by Dr. Caridad B. Fiar-od. The group members were posed a challenge as to whether we could go global and still maintain our tradition.

After a lengthy discussion two divergent opinions emerged – a traditionalist group and those who advocated radical changes. While the corporate group answer was to change damaging traditional practices, there was consensus in NOT changing core Igorot values/beliefs.

The three core values stressed were:

1. Family Values as affected by globalization and internalization movements

2. Tribalism like kailian system in terms of its negative and positive effects

3. Spiritualism in which there is the strong belief that spirits exist that monitors especially the bad things that people do. Such beliefs affect the making of decisions on which to do and not to do.

(Source: *igorot.com*)

IGOROT UK

The Igorot UK is an organisation originally formed by 22 members in September 1995 after the old BIBAK UK was dissolved. Its objective is to preserve and promote the Igorot cultural identity in the United Kingdom. Throughout the years, the Igorot UK provided our need for cultural fix away from home and it has instilled a sense of pride in being an Igorot whilst bringing the Igorot dances, songs, chants, art and culture to a wider audience here in the UK.

Currently, the Igorot UK is the 'mother organisation' and has four (4) subgroups representing the different provinces of the Cordillera Region: the Mountain Province Federation UK (MP Fed UK); the Ifugao Organisation UK (IOUK); the Benguet Organisation UK (BOUK) and the United Kalinga Apayao Network (UKAN) UK. In addition, the Igorot UK has sister organisations namely Timpuyog ti Tirad Pass and Sagunto UK. Together, all 6 organisations contribute actively to the success of the Igorot UK activities.

(Source: *igorot.com*)

IIC 5

Igorot: St. Louis - To the World

St. Louis, Missouri, USA

July 1-4, 2004

IIC-5 was held in St. Louis, Missouri, USA in July 1 - 4, 2004, to coincide with the centennial celebration of the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904, where more than 100 Igorots were exhibited as simply "dog-eating curiosities."

"Indescribably Grand." This is how Martha Clevenger of the Missouri Historical Society described the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri in a book, "Diaries and Letters From The 1904 World's Fair," which she edited.

"Indescribably Grand" is also a fitting description of IIC 5. IN 1904, a group of indigenous tribes from North Central Philippines called Igorots, were on display at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri. One hundred years later, descendants of these Igorots returned to St. Louis to participate in the centennial celebration of the 1904 World's Fair and to attend the 5th Igorot International Consultation... to participate and experience an Igorot cultural and education extravaganza - workshops, seminars, exhibits, trade booths, an ecumenical memorial service, a grand reunion; a showcase of Igorot pride, intelligence, simplicity, and vision for the future.

(Source: igorot.com)



"UNCLE SAM" AND THE IGOROTES AT LUNA PARK.

Above: Photo from the New York Daily Tribune shows Igorots on display at Coney Island, after the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, commonly known as the St. Louis World's Fair, where Igorots were displayed as dog-eating curiosities (below), in a photo from the US Library of Congress.



Natonin

The Municipality of Natonin lies some 74 kilometers by road east of the capital town of Bontoc and 25 kilometers west of Paracelis. It is flanked on the North by Tanudan in Kalinga; east by Paracelis; west by Barlig; and south by Aginaldo in Ifugao.

Places of Interest

1. Apatan Rice Terraces and many other terraces in all barangays;
2. Naropaan Waterfalls
3. Letalet Waterfalls
4. Enchanted Mountain of Maducayan;
5. Mount Harchuy;
6. Mount To'or and view deck- about 5 minutes or less walk from the national road where you can have a best view of the Apatan and Tonglayan Rice terraces and other barangays.
7. The Legendary Buwayon Salt Spring
8. Mt. Patiking (Elephant Head)- Located in Barangay Banao, a 45 minutes hike from Purag national Road.

Photos courtesy of Natonin LGU, text courtesy of Provincial Tourism Office)



*Above: Apatan Rice Terraces
Right: Letalet Falls
Below: Laken River*

Besao

Besao municipality is situated on the western part of Mountain Province, and is adjacent to the provinces of Ilocos Sur and Abra. It is 28 kilometers away from the Capital town of Bontoc and is accessible by land transportation either via Sagada or Tadian. It can be reached via land transportation and foot trails.

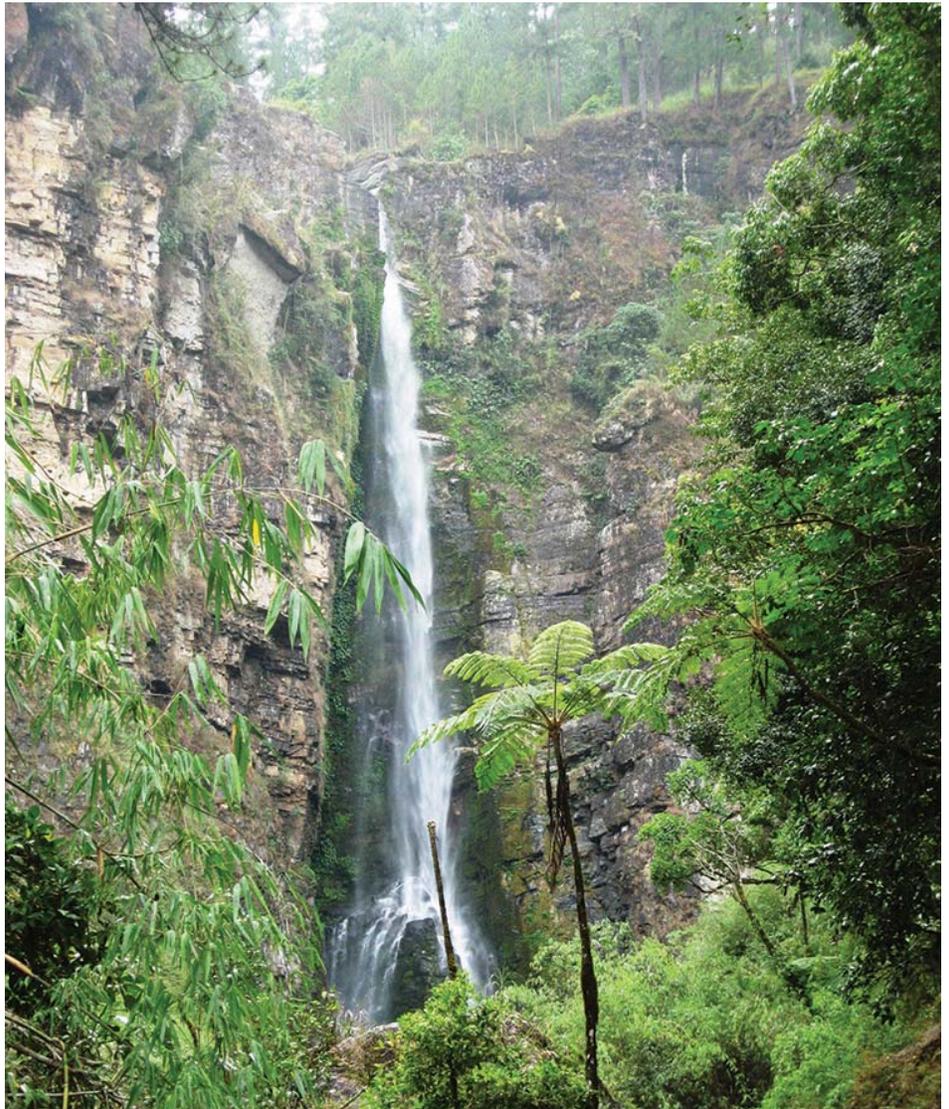
Besao has a mountainous terrain of moderately steep to very steep slopes with altitudes ranging from 400 to 2,364 meters above sea level with pine and mossy forest cover, croplands and grasslands.

Electricity is available in most of the barangays except sitio Pangweo in Laylaya and barangay Ambagiw which utilizes Solar Energy.

Available communication networks are the government owned postal office, transceiver radios and mobile signals of SMART and GLOBE Communications.

It offers spectacular sunsets, waterfalls (like the Tagpew Waterfalls in Agawa, shown at right), streams, and rivers that join the Abra River.

(Photos and text courtesy of Provincial Tourism Office)



IIC 6

A more tolerant world through cultural sharing

Melbourne, Australia

April, 2006



The Australian Aborigine had a much harder time during the colonial period than any Filipino Igorot. They were literally considered animals and were hunted for various reasons. After thousands died from diseases that the Europeans brought, thousands more died from bullets. They faced horrific trials throughout their history, trials that taught them valuable lessons we can learn from.

That is the sentiment behind the host MABIKA ANZ's choice of the theme "A more tolerant world through cultural sharing." It was a conference that wasn't just Igorot, but rather "Indigenous".

Australian Aborigines became part of the conference, where they shared the lessons they've learned. They participated in the subsequent debates to find the most effective paths to resolve mutual issues and to develop strategies that will make our world a more tolerant place for our respective peoples.

There was also mutual sharing of beliefs and cultural rituals and dances. In some cases, participants came to know that while these may be dramatically different in execution, they are also all remarkably similar to what we believe in.

The objective was to create a friendship, an alliance, a broader aboriginal family so that we can share and work together in the future to deal with the problems of indigenous people all over the world, not only with our own issues.

(Source MABIKA ANZ invitation flyer) Photo by Dave Leprozo shows Australian aborigines in the opening ceremonies of IIC6.

A Message of Thanks from an ISP Scholar

To all supporters of the ISP, a pleasant day to all of you.

I am Jemima T. Dagiw-a. 21 years old, from Ankileng, Sagada, Mountain Province. I took up Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the Mountain Province State Polytechnic College (MPSPC); graduating last April 12, 2013.

It was a blessing to be one of the students being supported by the Igorot Scholarship Program at the MPSPC. From 2009-2013 I have been receiving financial support from the ISP. I am thankful to God and all ISP supporters. The support I received from all you mean so much to me. In return, I will try to be one of you in the near future, and also support students who are interested in going to school.

I was also supported by my aunt, and I thank her and her family too. I took up Nursing because it was one of my dreams, and my family also wanted a nurse in the family.

Now that I graduated, I plan to review for the Board Exam this summer. I hope to pass the Board in just one take so I can apply what I have learned. I wish to help my parents and my aunt who supported me when I was studying. All I have to say to the donors and supporters of the Igorot Scholarship Program is, with all my heart, "THANK YOU VERY MUCH" for your support.

After graduating high school I wasn't able to go to college because I had to wait for my brother to graduate first. He was in third year college that time taking Bachelor of Science in Criminology at MPSPC. My sister was in second year college taking up Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education at Saint Louis University. I was so depressed at that time and when I came to know about the ISP, I was so thankful because I knew it would help me. And it's true. Now I finished my course.

I hope to be one of you in the future. Once again, thank you and God bless.

From: Jemima T. Dagiw-a

April 21, 2013

The ‘Gangsa’: a tool for passing on indigenous knowledge to second-generation Igorot Australians

By Dr. Minerva Challosing-March

In this present era, we see rapid changes taking place in almost all aspects of human living. Not all changes are, however, welcome. In the area of indigenous culture, there are debates concerning whether globalization brings to human society cultural homogenization or further differentiation. Not all of us, peoples of the Cordillera, may be currently partaking actively in the debate but we are certain that we all wish to keep our collective identity solid and vivid – with our distinguishing cultures and ages-old traits.

We aspire to make the younger Igorot generation appreciate what makes us distinctly who we are. To some of us, there may be trepidation about the way technology and communication foist a hegemonic influence in promoting certain values and habits on the younger people. We may, reasonably or unreasonably, see these as watering down certain Igorot attributes such as the sense of rootedness in the homeland, or traits such as giving respect to elders, or simply the almost natural oblivion towards certain practices such as rituals or ceremonies. We cannot be too conizant that there is dilution of certain cultural ‘markers’.

In Melbourne (Australia) it has been the modest aim of the members of MABIKA (Mountain Province, Bontoc, Ifugao, Kalinga, Apayao) Incorporated to inspire the younger resident Melburnians – we call them second generation Igorot Aussies – to learn by heart their traditional songs and dances. We endeavour to help deepen the awareness and ‘ownership’ by our youth of their rich cultural heritage through songs and dances with the attendant arts, legends, rituals, mythology and the subtle but deep values that are embedded within.

These thoughts arose in early 2013 and in that same year we were granted funding assistance from the Victorian Multicultural Committee (VMC) that offered financial assistance to organizations who wish to implement activities that would encourage Victoria's ‘diverse communities to retain and express their social identity and cultural inheritance’. The fund was used to make possible for holding an event that would serve as an opportunity for elders to teach the young people about Igorot customs. The idea of using the gangsa would be a creative way to put together a project. Hence, I prepared the conceptual framework in the proposal application which we submitted to VMC. We entitled the project “Gangsa: Sound scapes of a rich heritage” (Gangsa for short)

Thus from March to November 2013, the

who committed themselves to teach young men, aged 17 – 24, to play the gongs. The young men were willing to undergo fortnightly practices. The female elders had generously prepared snacks during all the rehearsals. Part of the funds was used to purchase the costumes of the trainees. We envision that a subsequent project, after the Gangsa, should be implemented and will focus on young ladies to learn the sagni. Thus the Gangsa was solely for the male youth considering the constraints of time. The young men were at long last ready to present their pattong skills before an audience by November 2013. More than 150 people gathered for the event and enjoyed the performance of our new gangsa men. The photos would show how confident they were. Considering that the occasion was also attended by visitors who are non-Cordillerans, the event included a slide presentation of the various ethnolinguistic groups of the Cordillera and the provinces where they come from. These were accompanied by a narrative presentation, with the use of photographs, on Cordillera history.

Looking back, the series of rehearsals over the duration of eight (8) months provided opportunities for elder Melburnians to cultivate pride among the Cordilleran youth of their rich cultural heritage and ancestral roots by talking about several aspects of Igorot customs and traditions. In particular, there was need to explain about the occasions where the gongs are used. The rehearsals included ample time for elders to explain who the different peoples are in the Cordillera, what is unique about each of them, and what may be common about all of them collectively.

We’ve only just begun with the task of passing on our oral tradition here in Melbourne. The challenge continues. We will keep beating the gongs.



Bontoc

Places of Interest

Mainit Hot Springs The therapeutic sulfur water from the spring lures tourists and natives alike.

Bontoc Museum houses various artifacts and other indigenous items not only from Bontoc but also from the neighboring provinces of Kalinga, Ifugao, and Benguet.

Bayyo Rice Terraces is 18 kms from the town proper. A view deck is available along the national road for tourists..

Kadchog Rice Terraces is a beautiful sight that will welcome you as you enter the town of Bontoc when coming from Sagada or Baguio.

Palikot-aso is where Lumawig, supreme deity, together with his dog and rooster rested when he visited Bontoc.

Petroglyphs in Alab are carved on a huge rock. The petroglyphs were declared by the National Museum as a National Cultural Treasure.

Kaman-utek

The hills of Kaman-utek are colored white and turn blue when it rains: a breathtaking site worth the hours of uphill climb. Tourists coming from Sagada regularly visit the site.

Lakes There are several lakes in Bontoc, including Kaipitan Lake, Ebao Lake and Locong Lake.

Weaving Industry In Can- eo and Samoki, loom or backstrap weaving serves as one of the main source



of income, especially for families in barangay Caneo.

Maligcong Rice

Terraces is known for its stone walls. The best time to visit the rice terraces is in the month of June. (shown above)

Paragliding over Bontoc (shown in opposite page)

Ganga Cave is where the early settlers of Brgy. Alab brought the dead they believed were killed by an angry spirit. (right)

Photos by Francis Degay and text courtesy of Provincial Tourism





IIC 7

*Nurturing our culture and
resources to chart and secure
our destiny*

Banaue, Ifugao, Philippines
April 12-15, 2008

*Counterclockwise from top right:
IIC 7 participants;
Dancing the boogie;
Playing the tupayya;
Banaue townspeople waiting to join the municipal fiesta
parade.*
Photos courtesy of Patrick McDonough



Sadanga

PLACES OF INTEREST

1. **Fuwaas Falls** is about 50 meters high, a favored picnic site of the youth of Belwang. Fishing in the pool is rewarding since it is abundant with fish including freshwater eel, a local exotic delicacy.

2. **Angoten Cave**- Not yet fully explored, this cave has caught the interest of local and foreign tourists. Found less than a kilometer above Belwang, it is an hour's hike from the village. It hosts an underground stream.

3. **Kansel Cave** Also found above Belwang and also not fully explored. It hosts a colony of swifts. Inside the cave is an underground stream.

4. **Rice Terraces**. Found in all the villages in Sadanga, rice terraces produce the people's staple food, and adding mystic beauty to the scenery.

5. **Quaint villages**. Sadanga is sometimes referred to as a "living museum," because its people have retained much of the indigenous systems, and there we can glimpse the simpler, rustic lives of our ancestors. The village of Anabel, viewed from the Bontoc-Kalinga road, is picturesque, with the houses perched upon a small hill, with rice fields and the Chico River in the valley below.

6. **Trekking Routes**. For the more adventurous, there are trekking routes going through Sadanga villages and mountains, with these routes going to Kalinga, other municipalities of Mountain Province and Abra. In these routes, naturalists get the chance of viewing nature's offering of forests, waterfalls, flora and fauna, and the exhilarating serenity of nature itself.



Photos and text courtesy of Provincial Tourism Office.

Above: Fuwaas Falls

Right: Annabel village

IIC 8

and IGOROT VILLAGE 2010

Keeping our Heritage Alive

Vancouver, Canada

August 5-8, 2010

The BIBAK Organization of BC (British Columbia), a duly established and registered society since 1989 under the Province of BC's Societies Act, was the host of IIC 8.

A simple but resounding theme "KEEPING THE HERITAGE ALIVE" was chosen to highlight the task to imbibe the richness of their culture and heritage upon Igorot-Canadian youths, most of whom have been born outside our homeland.

The expansive Simon Fraser University main campus was identified early on as an alternative venue to the traditional more expensive conference venues. Found on a mountain top in the City of Burnaby, it provided a magnificent view of the cities of Metro Vancouver.

IGOROT VILLAGE 2010

When a significant number of potential participants expressed that they could not attend a full conference due to either work or family commitments, and for out-of-town participants to be able to explore Vancouver and visit families, BIBAK BC incorporated tour activities, golf and even mountain climbing in the program.

The creation of IGOROT VILLAGE 2010 was added to provide additional

attraction.

The village replicated the Igorot Villages brought to world fairs in the US and Spain in the 19th and 20th centuries. This was also offered as an open multicultural presentation for the City of Burnaby and Simon Fraser University.

A parade of Igorot delegations from around the world opened the program ushered in by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police into the university convocation mall.

This was followed by a welcoming presentation by the Chinook First Nations; showcasing the culture and tradition of one of the indigenous/aboriginal communities in British Columbia.

A welcome by the University, the Philippine Consulate of Vancouver, the City of Burnaby, as well as BC Parliament by the first Filipino-Canadian Member of Parliament, came after.

This was followed by a very historical opening





of the Igorot Village 2010 with the ribbon being cut by Hon. Carlyn Schneidewind Weibel, the granddaughter of the late Richard Schneidewind an impresario during the Luisiana Purchase Exhibition and the person responsible in bringing a group of Igorots to world fairs around the US and Europe after the first US exhibition in Luisiana.

The major sessions included the keynote HERITAGE SESSION, a sharing by Prof. Patricia Afable of the Smithsonian Institution on IGOROTTE VILLAGE and Prof. Deana Weibel of Grand Valley State University, Iowa who was also a great granddaughter of Richard Schneidewind.

This was also followed by a presentation of activities toward Keeping the Heritage Alive in Europe by the Igorot Cordillera BIMAAK Europe (ICBE) followed by a presentation on Living Traditions of the Igorots.

The first day culminated with a full cultural presentation in the village, a Fashion Show spearheaded by the youth and a play by BIMAAK DC, "The Legend of the Sleeping Beauty Mountain Range of Kalinga."

Concurrent sessions on Social Concerns and the Youth concerns took place on the second day with presentations on the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project, Cordillera Autonomy, Utilization

the indigenous Igorot communities, and a presentation of the Igorot author of Nanny Tales.

The separate youth forum included a presentation on the Igorot Filipino American Identity followed by an Interactive Youth learning session on the traditional dances and instrumentation.

The second day also had concurrent presentations at the village site.

Gala Night

Appreciation of the different historical dances in other parts of the Philippines was the objective of presentations in the Gala Night by Philippine groups and special presentations by our partners BIBAK Pacific NorthWest and Kalinga Association of North America.

The 200 participants to the consultation were joined by an additional 500 other Filipinos and Canadians, in a resoundingly successful event.

The highlight of the night was a concert presentation by TINY TINA Ms. Luisa Marshall in the role of Tina Turner. With the Gala Night, IIC 8 ended with a blast.

Text contributed by Cliff Belgica, President, BIBAK Organization of British Columbia & Chairperson, Planning Committee IIC-8 Vancouver & Igorot Village 2010

Paracelis



TOURISM POTENTIALS IN PARACELIS

By Chito Tallongan, Municipal Tourism Action Officer – designate

The topography of Paracelis is of generally rolling hills melting into the plains of the Cagayan Valley. The western part of the municipality is covered by lush forests extending north to Kalinga. The grassy hills of the south rolls down south to Ifugao.

Paracelis has two main river systems, the Siffu and Mallig Rivers. The Mallig River has its source deep in the mountains of Padang-er and Vinoyvoyogen along the Kalinga boundary. The Siffu river has its origin in the jungle forest of Maducayan and cold mountains of Kachaclan.

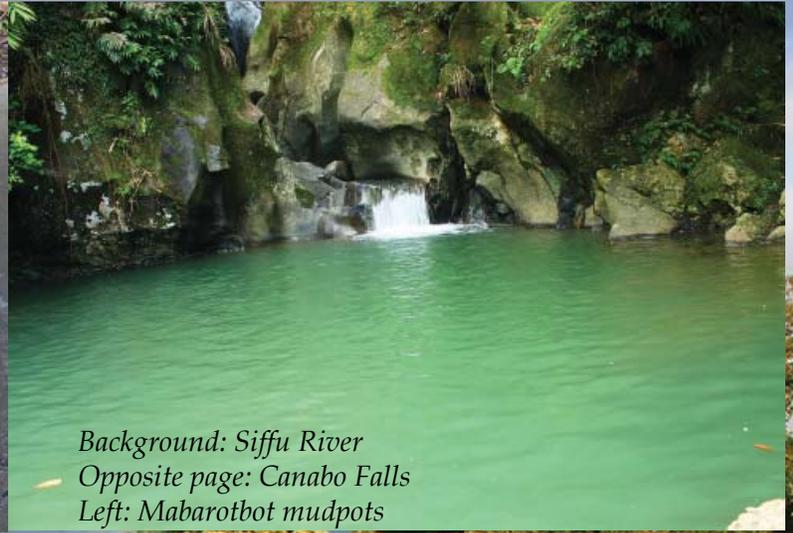
The road network connects Paracelis to the City of Tabuk, City of Santiago, and the municipality of Roxas. From Paracelis, one may reach Bontoc by road through the municipality of Natonin.

Paracelis offers a variety of tourism potentials. The more popular spots to local people include the Malinsawang (Nansawang) waterfalls at lower Amolung of Poblacion with

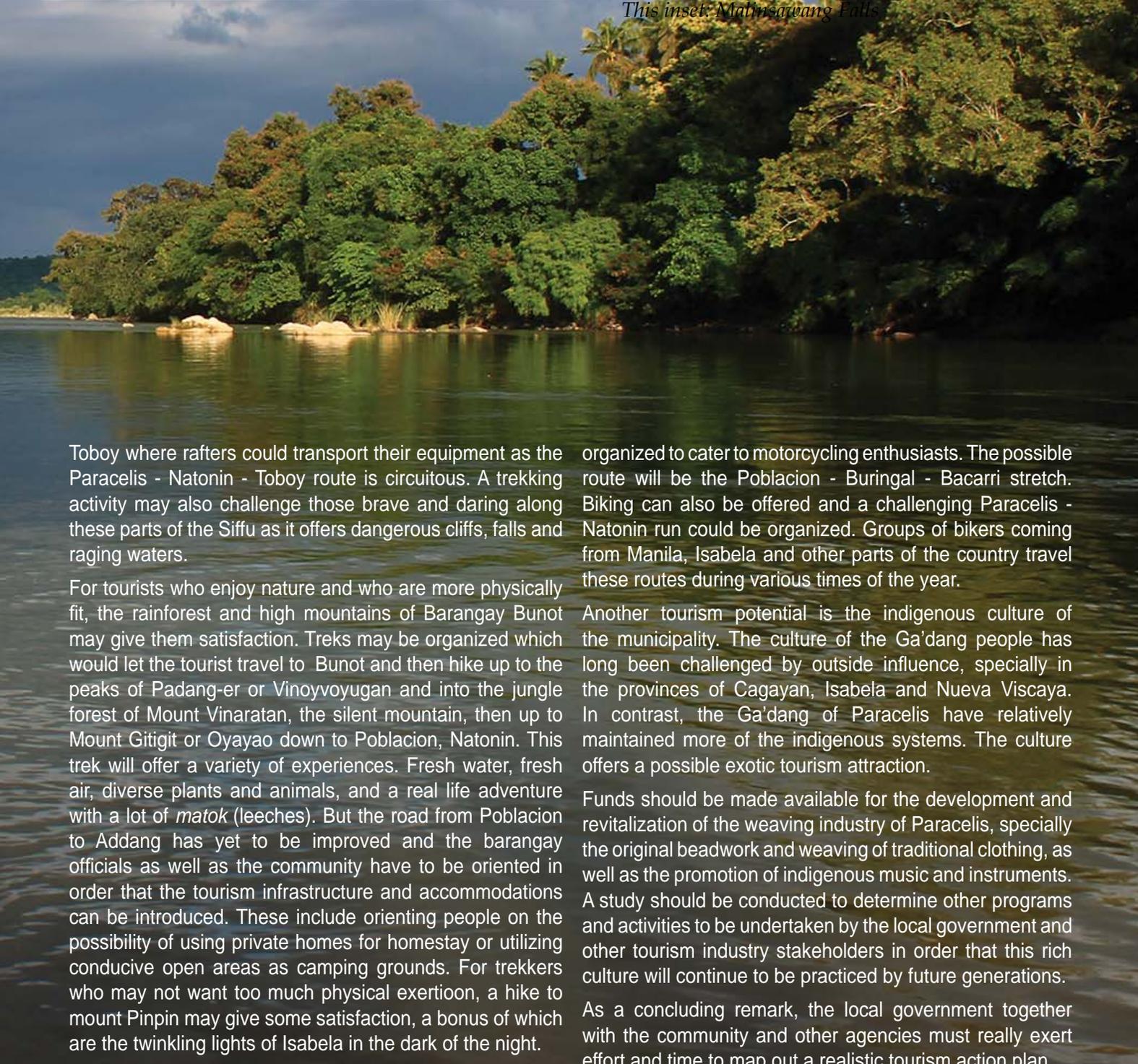
its water source flowing from sitio Likoy; the Canabo water falls which is favored during the rainy season; Iyo falls at Dalanao; the Mabarotbot mudpots at Barangay Bantay; and the the Aggonongan pond of Poblacion popular to fishing enthusiasts.

There are caves but they need to be explored and which should attract the interest of spelunkers. There is a cave located near the boundary of Barangay Buringal and Bacarri near Sitio Asilap. According to those who have seen this, the entrance is a hole about 1 meter wide, situated in the slopes of a hill. According to hunters, they tried putting in long bamboo poles to gauge its depth but the poles don't touch bottom. They have also observed that even with heavy downpours, the hole doesn't fill up with water. Another cave is at sitio Casag and another is at sitio Marallag. Both caves are also yet unexplored by humans as local people are superstitious and are not technically equipped. An assessment of these caves should be made and regulation has to be passed to protect these possible attractions.

River rafting is also possible in both the Siffu and the Mallig Rivers and there is a possibility of a short course of whitewater rafting along the Tuboy - Bananao stretch of the Siffu River. To enhance whitewater rafting, a road



*Background: Siffu River
Opposite page: Canabo Falls
Left: Mabarotbot mudpots
This inset: Matinsawang Falls*



Toboy where rafters could transport their equipment as the Paracelis - Natonin - Toboy route is circuitous. A trekking activity may also challenge those brave and daring along these parts of the Siffu as it offers dangerous cliffs, falls and raging waters.

For tourists who enjoy nature and who are more physically fit, the rainforest and high mountains of Barangay Bunot may give them satisfaction. Treks may be organized which would let the tourist travel to Bunot and then hike up to the peaks of Padang-er or Vinoyvoyugan and into the jungle forest of Mount Vinaratan, the silent mountain, then up to Mount Gitigit or Oyayao down to Poblacion, Natonin. This trek will offer a variety of experiences. Fresh water, fresh air, diverse plants and animals, and a real life adventure with a lot of *matok* (leeches). But the road from Poblacion to Addang has yet to be improved and the barangay officials as well as the community have to be oriented in order that the tourism infrastructure and accommodations can be introduced. These include orienting people on the possibility of using private homes for homestay or utilizing conducive open areas as camping grounds. For trekkers who may not want too much physical exertion, a hike to mount Pinpin may give some satisfaction, a bonus of which are the twinkling lights of Isabela in the dark of the night.

organized to cater to motorcycling enthusiasts. The possible route will be the Poblacion - Buringal - Bacarri stretch. Biking can also be offered and a challenging Paracelis - Natonin run could be organized. Groups of bikers coming from Manila, Isabela and other parts of the country travel these routes during various times of the year.

Another tourism potential is the indigenous culture of the municipality. The culture of the Ga'dang people has long been challenged by outside influence, specially in the provinces of Cagayan, Isabela and Nueva Viscaya. In contrast, the Ga'dang of Paracelis have relatively maintained more of the indigenous systems. The culture offers a possible exotic tourism attraction.

Funds should be made available for the development and revitalization of the weaving industry of Paracelis, specially the original beadwork and weaving of traditional clothing, as well as the promotion of indigenous music and instruments. A study should be conducted to determine other programs and activities to be undertaken by the local government and other tourism industry stakeholders in order that this rich culture will continue to be practiced by future generations.

As a concluding remark, the local government together with the community and other agencies must really exert effort and time to map out a realistic tourism action plan



IIC 9

Igorots in Partnership for Development

Baguio Country Club
Baguio City, Philippines
April 11-14, 2012



Top: Presentation during Gala Night at Baguio Country Club
Bottom pictures: Cultural Day at Pooten Resort, Asin

IIC 10

Celebrating a milestone of preserving the Igorot culture with dignity and meeting the challenges ahead with endurance

Vienna, Austria

August 7-10, 2014



Participants in IIC 10 pose for posterity. Photo contributed by Marjorie Guidangen-Akistoy



**IGOROT
AUSTRIA**

INDIGENOUS ROOTS. TIMELESS HERITAGE.
DISTINCT CULTURE. ENDURING COMMUNITY.

From the majestic Cordillera mountains, the Igorots have gone far and wide since the Saint Louis World's Fair in Missouri in 1904. Many have settled in foreign soil in search of better opportunities, embarking on a way of life different from the indigenous ways that they and their forebears grew up with. A group of Igorots found their way to the land of music.

Igorot Austria is a non-profit entity founded in 1999 with the first set of officers inducted in the year 2000. The organization was established to uphold and sustain the heritage, culture and traditions of the Igorots. On its 15th year as an Igorot community in Austria, we stay committed to our ideals of enriching and maintaining our unique heritage, culture and traditions for the future generation of Igorots.

We are thankful that through the years we have learned from our mistakes, making us better persons individually and collectively. We have learned that in any situation of conflict there is always the cause or the root - our human imperfection, our individual tendencies, name it all. Yet in all things we are Igorots who to some extent can resolve conflicts through our customary laws of tongtongan (to talk) in a dap-ay or ato. Likewise, one of the concepts of the Igorot culture is "inayan" which was instilled to us by our old folks and is something that we take to heart. Inayan signifies fear to the perceived Supreme Being. It prevents one person from doing unpleasant things. To us, it embodies all virtues and morals of tribal members - humility, truthfulness, honesty, fidelity, commitment and unity.

by Marjorie Guidangen-Akistoy



Sabangan

Tourist Attractions

Mount Kalawitan It is the most frequented tourist destination in Sabangan. The peak is 2,714 meters above sea level and the 4th highest mountain in the Philippines. At its peak, one can enjoy and take photographs of the sunrise and view some parts of Region 2, Benguet and the famous Tirad Pass of Ilocus Sur. It hosts headwaters of the Chico River and the Ibulao river of Ifugao.

Apa Camp Site There 3 available old huts that can be used as sleeping quarters of visitors before trudging the trail to Mount Kalawitan. As part of the tour to Mount Kalawitan, a cultural presentation is done by guides at night.

Kapangdanan river- It is found along the way to Apa Camp site. The water is clear and

clean. Trekkers can bathe here to soothe aching muscles. The source of the water is Mount Kalawitan. (*Inset Photo at left*)

Dagiwdiw Rice terraces- The view is likened to a giant centipede lying along the mountain slope. It can be viewed at the Sabangan Panoramic view deck. (*background photo*)

Panoramic View Deck- it is found along the Halsema road overlooking Dagiwdiw Rice Terraces and Chico River

Mini Museum of antique kitchen utensils

Wasay Cave. A shallow cave where clay coin molders are found. There is no account how these molders were brought there.

Text by PTO, Photos courtesy of Sabangan Mayor's Office



The Sagada Traverse is a new adventure aiming to provide the tourist with adventurous spirit a wholesome one-day experience in mountain trekking, caving, canyoneering and river tracing. The traverse retraces the ancient trails from Batalao to Taccong-Suyo passing through the pristine and most scenic spots along the Bontoc-Sagada boundary particularly Marlboro Hills (Lamagan/Kamanbaneng), Echo Dale, Into the Woods, Pitang/Kaipitan Rock Cliff, Blue Soil (Kaman-utek); Balangagan Cave and Ubwa Canyon in Taccong; and, Bangaden-Malitep River Spelunking/Caving

Complementing the traverse is a 1-hour spelunking at Balangagan Cave, also known as Marcos Cave. This winding cavern offers the most enchanting spectacle of stalactites, stalagmites, pillars/ columns, draperies and flowstones, most of which are still in the process of formation by carbonate deposition. Starting from the burial chamber where century-old wooden coffins and burial jars are laid, the route follows an ascending and circuitous passage along immense chambers before exiting in an aperture about 50 meters below.

Canyoning/Canyoneering

The next stage of the adventure is a beginner canyoneering experience in Ubwa Canyon, home to cascading waterfalls with numerous short drops. Its sheer isolation and raw beauty provide the wonderful stage for the breathtaking vistas of Southern Sagada. The canyon has a sublime character, wild and resilient nonetheless navigating it is easy to moderate. The emphasis, therefore, is more on aesthetics and fun rather than pure difficulty. The descent culminates with a 10 foot jump into a pool of crystal clear water.

River Tracing

Tracing the Bangaden river is a combination of rock climbing, boulder hopping and scrambling. Jump over boulders when encountering a deep pool and climb over it to conquer a waterfall. Difficulty level is moderate and perfect for beginners. Marvelous scenes are spread upstream comprised of cavelets, rock formations and limestone cliffs

THE SAGADA TRAVERSE



The SAGADA TRAVERSE is a special offer to nature lovers, trekkers and tourists.

Tour Package Rates – Php1,000/ person

Inclusions

- Service ride from Poblacion, Sagada to Batalao road end and Poblacion, Bontoc to Alab takeoff point
- Service ride from Suyo to Poblacion, Sagada and/or Taccong to Poblacion, Bontoc
- Entrance Fees
- Tour Guides
- Lunch at Montana Inn, Taccong
- One Finisher T-shirt (a proof that you completed the adventure)

Text and Pictures courtesy of Sagada Municipal Tourism Action Office



Opposite page: Marlboro Country
This page Top: Sunrise at Marlboro Country
Inset: Rock formation at Balangangan Cave

Tadian

TOURIST SPOTS

MOUNT MOGAO is located between Barangays Cagubatan and Pandayan. Trekking this mountain is a thrilling adventure for hikers and nature lovers. From the peak, one can have a breathtaking view of Sunny Side; Central Tadian, the adjacent Bauko Municipality, the Municipalities of Cervantes and Quirino, Ilocos Sur, and the Abra River.

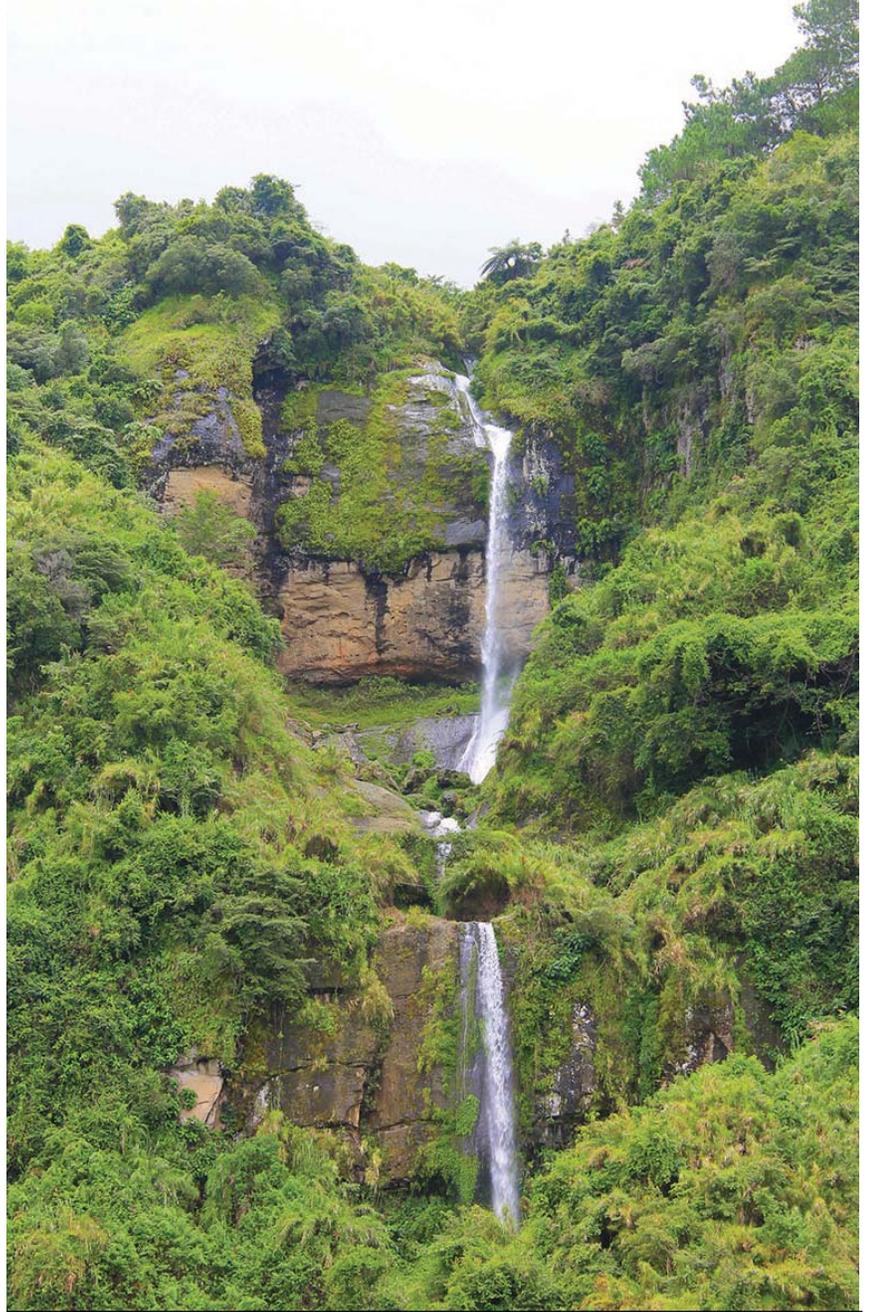
GAWAAN LAKE Aside from being the biggest lake in the municipality, Gawaan is a home to fresh tilapia and other aquatic species like eels, clams, and crabs. Beside it is a picnic ground for locals and visitors. The Gawaan Fish Folk Association also offers fishing and boating with the use of bamboo rafts and lately with row-boats a la Burnham Lake boating. It is located at Barangay Banaao, a 1-hour drive from Poblacion, Tadian.

ENCHANTED EELS Located at Barangay Cagubatan and Lenga are creatures believed to be sacred by the community people. The eels have been in their pools for more than a century and come out only for viewing when enticed with a whistle or bait. These mystical creatures are tourism come-on of this municipality.

WATER FALLS The Ub-ubanan falls and Pey-asan falls are located in Barangay Sumadel, a 30 minute drive away from Poblacion. Beside the pools of the falls are favorite picnic grounds for nature lovers. The falls are protected by the community since they supply the irrigation and domestic water needs of the barangay.

About an hour's walk from Barangay Banao is gigantic Poy-asan twin waterfalls, which is about 100 meters high. And about 30 minutes' walk up from Gawaan Lake is

*This page, Top: Kaliwliwan Falls, Bana-ao
Right: Bangcagan Healing Waters Mudbath
Opposite page, Top: Poy-asan Falls, Bana-ao
Opposite Page, Bottom: Bantey Rice Terraces*



Kaliwliwan Falls which has 3 small pools in the cascade of falls. The waters of these falls are crystal clear and cold that may soothe the hardened muscles after the trek to get to them.

BURIAL CAVES Depicting one of the rich cultural values of the Tadian ancestors, these burial caves showcase how the people burry their dead in olden times. These burial caves may be found in Banaao and Am-am.

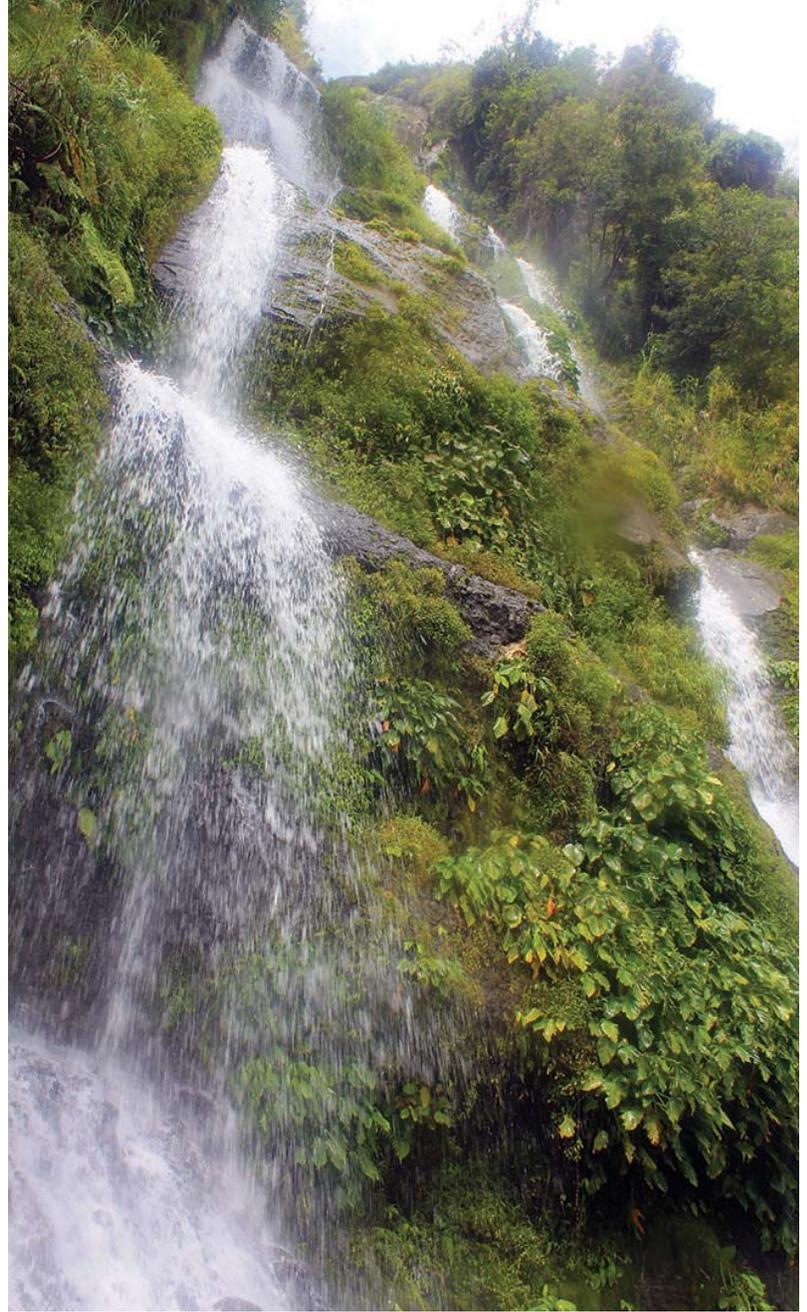
SINGING JAR The sound of this jar was accidentally discovered when one day a member of the family was washing the jar. He heard a mysterious sound while rubbing the brim of the jar. At present, several local and foreign tourists visit the place and experience producing sounds on the brim of jar. Unfortunately, there were visitors who were not able to let the jar resonate which adds to its mystique. It is managed by Mr. Rex Wanget at barangay Kayan West.

BANGCAGAN HEALING WATERS Come and experience the refreshing water that can cure skin diseases. It is a 20-minute walk downhill from Kayan East barangay plaza and 30 minutes' walk going up to the same plaza. It is a 15-minute drive from Poblacion, Tadian.

BINANGI A traditional Igorot house found in western Mountain Province. Beside it is the Tadian Museum. Both structures are located within the Tadian municipal hall grounds.

LAYOG COUNTRY FARM An agro-ecotourism destination located at Kayan West.

Text and photos courtesy of Tadian Municipal Tourism Action Office.





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Institutions, businessmen, political leaders and other individuals will be doing their part to make the IIC a success, though particular commitments and contributions may not be enumerated here, considering that this Souvenir Program will be printed weeks before the IIC. Even so, we are grateful to the following:

- The Sangguniang Panlalawigan headed by Bonifacio C. Lacwasan for their unwavering support for the three major events happening this April: The Lang-ay Festival, the commemoration of the 49th Foundation Day of Mountain Province, and the IIC.
- Congressman B. Dalog is also ever so generous to host the IIC to a dinner on April 8, 2016. He will also deliver the Keynote Address.
- Mayor Franklin C. Odsey will add to the lunch menu of the IIC on April 8. The Bontoc Local Government Unit (LGUs) will also be deploying personnel to man a Tourist Information Desk for IIC participants.
- All municipal LGUs will also do their part in the Lang-ay Festival that will contribute to the success of the IIC by providing IIC11 with a cultural background and ambiance. These LGUs will also have their Tourism desks in different booths during the Lang-ay, the better to provide IIC visitors with information and assistance.
- The participants in the many activities of the Lang-ay Festival, the performers, event organizers, and the many unknown actors in the Festival.
- The different municipal LGUs, specially the mayors and their staff, as well as the Municipal Tourism Action Officers (MTAO) also contributed to the making of this Souvenir Program.
- The Mountain Province State Polytechnic College, headed by Dr. Rexton Chakas. The MPSPC will deploy students to help in the Secretariat, ushering and documentation work of the IIC. The MPSPC will allow their choir to entertain the IIC participants. The dummy prints of this Souvenir Program was also printed by the College.
- IGO Philippines, headed by Mr. Manuel Ano, and IGO International, headed by Mrs. Mia A. Abeya, are also to be thanked, for the coordination and cooperation that was necessary in order that the Provincial Government and the IGO successfully co-host this event.
- The staff and personnel of the Mountain Province Government, who continue to work in the background and contributing to the success of the three events.
- All others unnamed who will contribute to the success of the three events.



Leonard G. Mayaen
Governor



The IGO Scholarship Program

Established under the auspices of the IGO to address the following three components of education:

- Scholarships for worthy students who are otherwise unable to pursue post secondary education
- Augmentation of school facilities to further Igorot education
- Research

The Program Mission:

The program is intended to address current inequities in education particularly among the Igorot youth in the Cordillera of the Philippines. Further, it is intended to encourage Igorot youth to take leadership roles upon graduation such that the program can be grown and perpetuated in the longer term. To that end, the mission of the program is:

Enable Igorot youth in the Cordillera of the Philippines to obtain equal opportunity in terms of a quality education and achieve this mission through three general areas of endeavour, namely:

- 1) Offering scholarship programs to economically challenged Igorot youth to enable them to obtain a post secondary education.
- 2) Augmenting facilities (educational materials et al) of Cordilleran colleges, universities & other post secondary institutions to enable the children attending these institutions to achieve higher levels of academic achievement
- 3) Fostering and supporting research into Igorot history, culture, education, economics and government

And that this mission will include not only direct funding where deemed applicable but through other means such as forging educational links world-wide with other educational institutions to garner their support and resources for the greater benefit of the program.

Source: the IGO Scholarship Program Charter

Background photo is of students participating in Mountain Province Dau Commemoration, April 7, 2015