EARLY FILIPINO IN THE PRE-HISPANIC PERIOD
THE IMPORTANCE OF TOPOGRAPHY

Communities before lived near bodies of water. Houses were lined along the coasts of seas, bays, rivers and lakes.

WHY?

- Food from the water resources
- Easy access to food
- Means of transportation
- Not easily attacked by an enemy
EARLY SHELTER:

1. **CAVES** – Early Filipinos lived in caves.

   Caves were safer

   Later... he moved to the plains and coastal areas

   Plains – for farming
   Coastal Areas – for fishing
EARLY SHELTER:

2. NIPA HUTS – made of **NIPA PALM LEAVES, WOOD and BAMBOO**.

- Square shape and about 1 meter above ground.

- **Distinguishing feature:** **ONE ROOM ONLY**
- used as dining room, living room, bedroom and receiving rooms.
EARLY SHELTER:

2. NIPA HUTS
The main post of the house is called the ARIGUE
EARLY SHELTER:

2. NIPA HUTS

The **BATALAN** is the place at the back for water jars and cooking
EARLY SHELTER:

3. TREE HOUSES

To keep safe from enemies and wild animals. Ladders were hoisted in at night.
EARLY SHELTER:

4. HOUSES ON STILTS

Houses along the coastal areas
There is a pathway leading to the house
1. **AGRICULTURE** – there are 2 methods

**A. KAINGIN METHOD**

- prepare the area for farming by cutting and burning and dead plants / grasses
- before cutting/burning they performed rituals
- after burning, the soil was cleaned thoroughly
MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD

1. AGRICULTURE

B. WET METHOD – rice was planted in areas where dikes were built to collect water.
2. HUNTING – the men used bow and arrows to hunt for deer.

They were also accompanied by dogs to chase the deer. After the catch, they divided the deer among themselves.
MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD

3. BOAT-MAKING – they made boats out of wood

- **BIREY** – boat made for 50 to 100 people
- **BIROCO** – boat made for more than 100
MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD

4. TRADING

– Filipinos traded with other Filipinos

- The standard of exchange was **GOLD**.
- Malubai – worth 2 pesetas
- Bielu – worth 3 pesetas
- Linguingi – worth 4 pesetas
- Oregeras – highest value – 5 pesetas
EARLY FILIPINO COMMUNITIES:

The early communities had 10 to 20 families.

The commercial communities were in the coastal areas.

Local people traded with people coming from other Asian countries.

This ACTIVITY attracted PEOPLE FROM MOUNTAINS AND FORESTS.
BARANGAY

From the word BALANGHAY, BINIRAY, BALANGAY, meaning A WATER VEHICLE

- Refers to an ETHNIC GROUP who migrated and rode together
- Usually, the group was named after their DATU
- They would ride together in boats.
CHOOSING A LEADER

- **AGE** – the oldest of the group was the leader

- **INHERITANCE** – based on blood relations to the datu. (son or daughter of the datu, next immediate relative)

- **EXTENT OF KNOWLEDGE** – had enough knowledge of the customs and traditions of the tribe
THE BARANGAY GOVERNMENT
- Made up of 5 to 10 barangays

- Datu: head / extensive powers / implemented and made the laws

- Judge between conflicts

- The community would serve the DATU in times of WAR / TRAVEL / FARMING / HARVESTING / FISHING

- Laws of the barangay – WRITTEN or UNWRITTEN
COUNCIL OF ELDERS =
MADE THE LAWS OF THE BARANGAY

DATU recommends a law
COUNCIL reviews and agrees

UMALAHOKAN – announces to the barangay
THE TRIAL

1. TRIAL BY DATU

DATU = JUDGE
COUNCIL OF ELDERS = JURY

- Oath:
- “May the crocodile devour me if I lie.
  - May lightning strike me if I give a wrong statement.
    - May I die where I am standing if I am not telling the truth.”
THE TRIAL

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2. TRIAL BY ORDEAL – Boiling water and stone
Lighted candle
Swimming underwater

3. TRIAL BY WAR – Fight it out until one gives up
ELEMENTS OF A COMMUNITY

- FAMILY – Most important element of the community
- Very close family ties
- Blood is thicker than water
PRACTICES / BELIEFS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE CLOSE FAMILY TIES:

1. BALATA – wife does not eat until the husband returns from battle

2. GINGGIL – a practice of non-remarrying
INSULTS / REVENGE: RELATIONSHIPS TURN SOUR BECAUSE OF INSULTS

VISAYANS:
- Aswang
- Alakawat
- Barangan
- Dalondongan

TAGALOGS:
- Mangkukulam
- Manggagaway
INHERITANCE:

- When a father dies, leaves 4 children divided into 4
- Unless the father favored one child
- Illegitimate child gets nothing

- No children: brothers get the inheritance

SUCCESSION TO THE THRONE:

- ELDEST SON ➔ 2ND ELDEST SON ➔ ELDEST DAUGHTER
THE 4 KINDS OF GROUPS

1. DATUS OR LEADERS

- Tagalogs call their datu – LAKAN OR GAT
- Wives were called DAYANG–DAYANG
- Showed highest respect
- Made important decisions

Regarded as a Savior
THE 4 KINDS OF GROUPS

2. MAHARLIKA or the FREE PEOPLE
   (NOBLE PEOPLE)

Did not pay taxes
Travelled with the datu
Supervised the rowers of the boat
THE 4 KINDS OF GROUPS

3. TIMAWA or the ORDINARY PEOPLE (The Masa)

- Allowed to live in other barangays
- Rowers of the boat
- Protected by the datu
THE 4 KINDS OF GROUPS

4. ALIPIN OR AYUEY OR THE SLAVES

- lowest status
- caused by inheritance (inherited from a master)
- captured
- punished
- sold
OTHER IMPORTANT GROUPS:

- BABAYLAND, BAYLANA, OR KATALONA – female priests / can communicate with the gods / heads all rituals
- TAMBALAN – healers or doctors
- ATUBANG NG DATU – adviser of the datu
- DARAGANGAN – outstanding soldier / made to wear pinayusan – a decorative scarf made of abaca / longer potong – cover the head
- PARATABGAW – barangay teacher
1. Pagnganga – chewing of betel nut

- Tagalog = nganga
- Visaya = buyo
- Malays / indians = makan sirek

NGANGA = areca seeds, lime and a leaf of betel (tobacco became the 4th ingredient)
2. BELIEF IN THE AFTERLIFE

T’BOLI – Soul/spirit left the body during sleep (astral projection)
- person awakened only after the spirit returns
- dies when the soul fails to return to the body

BAGOBO – Each had two souls
- good and bad souls
3. BURIAL PRACTICES

- MANOBOS – BURY DEAD IN TREES

- 4 methods
  a) tying the dead to a branch
  b) placing the dead between 2 branches
  c.) placed on a platform made on the branches
  d.) buried inside the tree trunk
3. BURIAL PRACTICES

SULOD – Bury inside the tree trunk / remove the bones / placed inside a jar
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO
(Read page 117 – 118 Beliefs)

3. BURIAL PRACTICES

IFUGAOS – Corpse was seated in a chair for several days / brought to cave / after a year buried elsewhere
3. BURIAL PRACTICES

SAGADA – Hang the dead by the side of the mountain.
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO

OTHER BURIAL PRACTICES
Corpse was embalmed with herbs and oils and perfume / place in a coffin
Buried right under the house / cave of a cliff overlooking the sea
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO

OTHER BURIAL PRACTICES

Like Egyptians – buried with the dead are:

clothes, jewelry, food, weapons, sometimes even slaves / eyes were covered with beaten gold
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO

OTHER BURIAL PRACTICES

Mourning period – relatives, family, wore white / refrained from eating meat or drinking wine / to show their deep sorrow, relatives hired professional mourners / to chant the good deeds of the dead
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO

OTHER BURIAL PRACTICES

Bright lights burned all day and night. Fires built around the bereaved home.
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO

OTHER BURIAL PRACTICES

Others, the house would be burned down and the family left to live in a new home.
CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS OF EARLY FILIPINO

OTHER BURIAL PRACTICES

If the person who died, died violently, like murdered or tortured, the relatives would kill the guilty party and their family. To appease their sorrow.