

The Socio-Economic-Political Situation of the Townfolk of Little Samar in Navotas: A Case Study

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies

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Approval Sheet

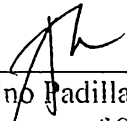
In partial fulfillment of the course requirement for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies, this thesis entitled -- "*The Socio-Economic-Political Situation of the Townsfolk of Little Samar in Navotas: A Case Study*" -- has been prepared and submitted by Ivy Velarde Manalansan.

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ABSTRACT

Development is a process of social transformation and human development wherein the people are both the subject and object of development.

In an era where economies and countries consolidate to become one global village, the Philippines is doing its best to integrate itself in the global arena. To become at par with the developing and advanced countries, our government anchored itself on the so-called globalization. We adopted development strategies meant to uplift not only our economy's status but also the lives of the people.

Past and present administrations focused on developing the economy. Different policies and programs were implemented so as to realize the much elusive dream of economic growth. Economic growth that aims to improve the people's lives. For centuries, we, as with the other countries, upheld the theory that economic prosperity would eventually trickle down to the people.

All over the world, human development has been pursued to be the relevant manifestation of economic growth. The Little Samar fisherfolks who dwell in an urban depressed area is an apparent picture that it has all been simply an empty rhetoric.

So, what is economic growth if it does not improve people's lives?

Development is a point of no return wherein human development and equity are not seen as trade-offs.

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CHAPTER I: THESIS PROPOSAL

I. Statement of the Problem

The concern of this paper is to investigate and analyze the current social, economic and political life situation of the depressed townfolk of "Little Samar" in Navotas. The paper aims to delve deeper into the problems currently affecting the lives of the people especially the fisherfolks. It will also evaluate the government's efforts in addressing such problems.

The Little Samar area, being a haven of quite a number of Navotas fisherfolks, is a picture of a slum neighborhood. The paper aims to present an ethnographic description of the dominant physical conditions of a slum community. It aims to describe the existing conditions in the neighborhood.

With fishing as their main source of livelihood, the paper intends to present the current state of fishing in the Little Samar community. It will also tackle the different problems experienced by the fisherfolks living in a depressed urban area.

The townfolk of "Little Samar" are going in and out of the court fighting for their right. They are contesting for the land they are now occupying for a long time. A man that goes by the name of Danilo Ang is claiming that he owns the land. According to the people, Mr. Danny Ang was just then an ordinary man who rose from the ranks when he married a rich Chinese woman. His wife, Estrelita de los Santos, is a sister of Jimmy de los Santos, Navotas ex-vice-mayor.

The Ang family has been a major supporter of Mayor Felipe del Rosario. The dispute between the Ang family and the people of "Little Samar" has been going on for

quite a long time. The people are contesting for their right that they own the land, which was uninhabited when they settled there more than four (4) decades ago. The Ang family, on the other hand, has just migrated in the place sometime in the 1980s.

The paper also attempts to establish the existing relationship between the Little Samar residents, the local government of Navotas and the local elite (the Ang Family). It aims to determine how these three (3) elements contribute and interact with one another with regards to the present situation affecting the Little Samar community.

II. Formulation of Hypothesis

From the Statement of the Problem, the researcher deduced the following hypothesis:

- That the Little Samar fisherfolks are suffering from a meager catch due to the different policies and programs (for example, the Medium Term Fisheries Development Program) implemented by the government.
- That the Little Samar folks are struggling to live a decent life by fighting for the land they have inhabited for more than four (4) decades or so.
- Living in a depressed urban area, they are suffering from lack of basic social services (especially decent housing and health care) which the local government neglected to provide.

III. Theoretical Framework

The paper shall adopt for its theoretical framework the theory of dialectical materialism or the historical materialist perspective. The chosen theoretical framework is

the defining core of Marx's philosophy. It has been known to be the most scientific and applicable theoretical framework in the study of development.

Primary emphasis is given on the productive activities of man. The prevailing material condition of the society he is in is first taken into account before his other activities are given attention. Hereby also known as the mode of production or MOP, man takes center stage. Inherent of man's nature is that he has needs vital for his survival. To be able to satisfy the demands of his human existence, man has to appropriate his labor-power.

The mode of production (MOP) is the base or the fundamental aspect of society. The most basic point is that the way a man lives influences or affects the way he thinks. Man's economic material condition, being the substructure determines man's ideology in politics, religion, culture, philosophy and the like – making-up the superstructure. "It is not consciousness that determines man's being but it's man's being that determines man's consciousness."

This theoretical framework utilizes the historical approach. It is perceived that everything that happens is interconnected. That what happens in the past is linked to the future. In his interpretation of history, Marx applied the DIALECTICS, which is the study of contradictions. This is the essence of development. Changes in the economic system are gradually reflected in the changes in the entire superstructure. In other words, each development sets the stage for further developments.

Class analysis is also incorporated in this framework. Marx believed that the mode of production (MOP) naturally divides social life into antagonistic classes. Each class is united within itself by the fact that each has a common economic interest.

Protecting and enhancing each class interest creates exploitation by the dominant class and misery for the exploited one. The tension between the two irreconcilable class is due to the contradiction between the forces of production and the relations of production; as well as the dominating social order and the exploited class. It is this contradiction that produces the class struggle. Thus, "the history of hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles."

This theoretical framework is also holistic in approach. The particular socio-political-economic situation of the people is related to the whole problem and the whole structure of society. In more ways than one, the chosen theoretical framework provides a distinctive and decisively superior way to analyze human existence. In a nutshell, this is the "study of real men in real conditions."

IV. Definition of Terms

1. Development - the act or process of improving a city's outlook: e.g. from a slum area to a commercial district.
2. Urbanization - the thrust of transforming a remote, isolated area to a polished, people-and-business-congested area in a city.
3. Fisherfolks - people who traditionally lived and thrived through fishing and engaging on related activities.
4. Slum - a thickly populated section especially of a city, marked by crowding, dirty run-down housing and generally wretched living conditions.
5. Forcible Entry - an illegal entry to a private property with use of force or power.

6. Business Tycoons - leader in business activities; businessmen of exceptional wealth and power.
7. Foreshore lands - land near the shores of bodies of water that is proclaimed public land.
8. Private sector - a sector mainly comprised of business-engaged people including the very rich but few elite.
9. Commercial fishermen - fishermen who use their own boats and employ others, as well as use boats that are equipped with newer technology and faster speed.

V. Methodology

The researcher applied first the traditional method of data gathering, that is, searching for written documents. She scoured and searched municipal libraries, municipal offices and barangay offices. She also resorted to a few hours of interview and occasional visits to the area. These occasional visits will mean conducting initial ocular inspection. But then, the researcher will change her tactics as soon as the body of the paper is being done.

The tactics initiated will be: the researcher will utilize the participatory research method. This means that the researcher will be integrating herself in the area starting the semestral break and through the duration of the paper until its completion. She will try to immerse herself in the productive activities of these people.

The researcher will also conduct dialogues and interviews to key persons who have stakes in these issues. To develop an atmosphere of "reaching-out" and friendliness, the researcher will use the Filipino language as the vernacular. Also, the researcher will

give out questionnaires for surveys. These questionnaires will be of standardized format and the questions are mostly fixed or close-ended type of questions. This is for the reason that these people are busy in earning their survival needs. The approach is meant to make it easier for them and to encourage them to answer the survey questionnaire.

Actually, the researcher aside from occasional interview visits, is currently attending educational discussions (EDs) which are conducted by some organizers of ALMANA or the Alyansa ng mga Mamamayan ng Navotas.

VI. Review of Related Literature

The State of Philippine Environment. IBON Databank and Resource Center. 1997.

The book discussed the vital role played by the Philippine ecosystem to Mother Nature as well as to Philippine society. Each chapter of the book tackles the current condition existing in the environment. It also points out that to mend the crisis – the best way would be is to strike first the roots of the environmental crisis.

The Philippine Fisheries. IBON Databank and Resource Center, Peasant Desk. 1997.

The book pointed out the intensifying problems that beset the fishing industry. The liberalization policy of the government did not really helped in solving the problem. It only made their situation worse than ever. Because of this liberalization policy, the fisherfolks were displaced from the very source of their livelihood, exploited the resource base vital for their existence and stripped them the right to live in decent and humane condition. Actually, this policy only serves the whims and caprices of transnational corporations (TNCs). This is their way of arresting the crisis that capitalism has befallen

in their very advanced countries. These transnational corporations (TNCs) exist only to take advantage and exploit the depressed fisherfolks. To change the current situation that has befallen the fisheries sector, it is imperative to root out monopolies of coastal lands, implement a nationalization policy, genuine agrarian reform and the practice of communal fishing.

The Fisheries Code. IBON Special Release. May 1997.

The proposed code attempts to expand the access and ownership of fishing grounds by big fishlords as well as transnational corporations (TNCs). It also attempts to maintain the private sector's role as a major player in the fishery sector.

Basically, this code contradicts itself on the issues of limited access and government regulation. The hidden agenda behind this code is masked by promoting people empowerment and encouraging people participation through the formation of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council or FARMCs.

Development and Democracy: A People's Agenda. Edited by Reuel R. Hermoso. Ateneo de Manila, Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs. 1994.

This book emphasized that limiting the access of municipal fishing grounds set by the provision allowing vessels weighing 3 gross tons (GT) or less to fish may all the more suffocate and stunt the growth of the municipal fisheries sector. The provision freezes the growth of municipal fisheries by not allowing fishing vessels with a displacement of less than 3 cubic meters to fish.

Economic Development. Written by Michael Todaro. Singapore: Longman Group Ltd. 1995.

In his study of Third World underdevelopment, he presented three (3) objectives of development. First, he stated that development should increase the availability and widen the distribution of basic life-sustaining goods such as food, shelter, health and protection. Second, development should raise the levels of living including, in addition to higher incomes, the provision of more jobs, better education and greater attention to cultural and humanistic values, all of which will serve not only to enhance material well-being but also to generate greater individual and national self-esteem. Thirdly, development should expand the range of economic and social choices available to individuals and nations by freeing them from servitude and dependence not only in relation to other people and nation-states but also to the forces of ignorance and human misery. Accordingly, if all these objectives have been achieved by a nation, then it has undergone development.

Slum as a Way of Life: A Study of Coping Behavior in an Urban Environment. Written by Felipe Landa Jocano. Manila. 1975.

This book provides an ethnographic description about the notable features of a slum environment. It describes the existing physical conditions of slum life and the major cultural premises used by the people to achieve effective ecological adaptation to certain types of urban environment.

VII. Scope and Limitations

The study shall focus on the present way of life and situation of fisherfolks living in a depressed urban area. It will also discuss the multitude of problems confronting the Little Samar townsfolk who lived in a depressed urban area. The study will touch on their way of life, their livelihood, their concerns, among other things,

The researcher will try and do her very best to gather pertinent data related to the study. Though, the researcher may not be given the chance of interviewing the other opposing side since she was already warned to stay away from the area.

VIII. Significance of the Study

The researcher chose the area of study because she lives near the locality. She thought that she could somehow help the people by documenting the events happening there.

The study is also important so as to show or reveal the effects and implications of these unfolding events on their lives.

The paper will also help in determining the extent of the relationship of the "Little Samar" residents, local officials (government), and the few ruling elite (the Chinese family).

Another thing is that whatever will be the output of this study will serve as a guide and framework for organizations in mobilizing the townsfolk.

Lastly and most importantly, their struggle is our struggle, too. They may not be in the same level as ours, but just think of it – they are also human beings like us, who

deserved to be treated equally, with respect and with the right to live in peace and contentment.

CHAPTER 2: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Introduction

Poverty and life's hardships had driven a lot of people from the rural areas to migrate in the city. Seeking for greener pastures, they brought their families with them to live in the city. For a while, they thought that living in the city was heaven enough. But they were mistaken. Here in the city, life has been more hell than what they thought it should be.

With no choice but to live and meet life head on, they continue to struggle to survive. Knowing that they cannot go back now to where they came from, they decided to settle elsewhere. Some of them took shelters within the nooks and crevices of high-rise buildings or near garbage dumpsites. Others take idle lands, either owned by private individuals or by the government.

The Little Samar townfolk came to settle in the area for these reasons. Being farmers back in Samar and driven away from their lands, they took fishing as their alternative source of livelihood. They came to settle in Manila when they accidentally discovered this parcel of land, which is now known as Little Samar. They were then in search of rich fishing grounds that will assure them of great catch everyday.

Thinking no one owned it, just an idle land lying there, they thought of living in the area for good. Soon, the place was inhabited by quite a big number of families over the years.

A. Brief History of the Municipality of Navotas

The Creation

Time was when Navotas was not even known by its present name and it was then considered only as a barrio of Malabon. The place then was a long and narrow delta with thick line of mangrove trees, which grew abundantly along its shoreline extending from north to south.

It was believed that long ago, the town was not entirely surrounded as it is now, by water. The constant battering of the turbulent waves of Manila Bay gradually eroded a weak strip of land that links this town with the district of Tondo in Manila until an opening was made. Soon enough, seawater began to flow through the opening especially during high tide. This breach eventually developed into a regular waterway that is now known as the Navotas River. This phenomenon of nature must have made the people call this place as '*nabutas*' which means breached or pierced through. In later years, the whole place came to be known as Navotas.

San Jose de Navotas was the first name given to the locality while it was still a part of Malabon. The name honors its patron saint, San Jose.

The movement for a separate Navotas, which was then a part of Malabon started on December 20, 1827 when the three (3) *principales* of the three barrios of San Jose, Navotas and Bangculasi petitioned to the Spanish Government to form a new town. This is for the reason that the people were having difficulty transacting business and attending religious activities at the mother town.

On October 31, 1832, the residents of the three *principales* nominated Don Bernabe Francisco to represent them in their fight for the separation of their place from Malabon. But despite this, their petition was shelved not only once but many times. Instead of being discouraged, the successive rebuff only served them to prod to work harder.

Finally, a document dated February 16, 1859 recorded the separation of barrios San Jose, Navotas and Banguelasi from Malabon.

On August 6, 1898, Navotas formally joined the revolutionary government of General Emilio Aguinaldo when the Philippine Revolution broke out in 1896.

On June 11, 1901, the town of Navotas was incorporated into the newly created province of Rizal, by virtue of the Philippine Commission Act No.197. In 1903, by virtue of the enactment of Philippine Commission Act No. 942, the municipalities of Malabon and Navotas were merged to become one municipality with Malabon as the seat of government for purposes of economy and centralization. But Bernardo Dagala who was the first elected president of the merged towns fought hard to for the separation of Navotas from Malabon. Finally, on January 16, 1906, Navotas gained full independence as district municipality by virtue of Philippine Commission Act No. 142.

Presidential Decree 824 issued on November 1975 by the late President Marcos created the Metropolitan Manila Commission placing Navotas together with the other 12 municipalities of Rizal and 4 cities under its jurisdiction. This was for the exercise of emergency powers under martial rule.

Today, Navotas remains a part of Metropolitan Manila together with 3 other towns and 13 cities under the Metro Manila Commission, which is known as the Metro Manila Development Authority to form what is now known as the National Capital Region.

Brief Economic Profile

The Municipality of Navotas is a small fishing town in the northwest portion of metropolitan Manila. It is a long island system presenting an aggregate shoreline of approximately 4.5 kilometers fronting Manila Bay. It is composed of 14 barangays, 11 of which are coastal and 3 are interior barangays.

Towards the north, Navotas shares a common border with the town of Obando, Bulacan along the Suhol Creek. The eastern boundaries of Navotas are all rivers. In the south, it shares a common boundary with Manila. On the west, the waters of Manila Bay wash the shores of Navotas.

Navotas has an aggregate land area of 10.77 square kilometers including the .67 square kilometers reclaimed area used by the Philippine Fishery Development Authority Complex.

Navotas is generally flat land and the most part of it are residential areas. The better residential structures are found along the main streets and in the residential subdivisions of Carville and Merville. On the other hand, shipyards engaged in shipbuilding and repair mostly occupies the riverbanks. All the river systems used to be very rich fishing grounds: but due to heavy pollution, aggravated by silting, all marine life in the rivers ceased to exist. Also, the shorebanks and riverbanks are slum areas.

The municipality of Navotas remains to be the mecca of fishermen throughout the archipelago for it is reputed to be Southeast Asia's biggest fish market, the Philippine Fishing Port Complex. This is evident in the composition of the people inhabiting the area. There are ethnic aggrupations in the municipality. The Samarenos, Bicolanos, Ilocanos and mergers of different ethnic origin reside near the fishing port complex.

As mentioned earlier, the aggregate land area of Navotas is 10.77 square kilometers including the .67 square kilometers reclaimed land now occupied by the Philippine Fishery Development Complex. "The distribution of land area's use in Navotas is as follows:¹

LAND USE	SQUARE KILOMETERS
Residential	2.67
agricultural (fishponds)	5.81
industrial	0.75
commercial	0.65
cultural	0.01
government	0.30
institution	0.03
open spaces	0.55

Studies and researches made on the area of Navotas revealed that there is an acute shortage of land for institutional, industrial and residential usage. At present, no large parcels of land in Navotas are available for planned commercial, industrial and residential expansion.

Business is flourishing in the municipality, too. Many of the residents are basically businessmen from a single vendor or rather a simple one to big exporters/importers of goods and services.

¹ *Socio-Economic Profile of the Municipality of Navotas*. (Manila: 1998), p.6.

The municipality is basically a fishing town with a good 70% of its population deriving their livelihood from fishing and other related industries and 46% of its total land area are devoted to fishponds. Corollary to this industry is the existence of some 31 shipyards and docks, which build and service the growing demand of fishing industry.

B. Historical Overview of the Little Samar Community

The Setting

Little Samar is a picture of a slum neighborhood. One need not to ask how they live. Just look around at the place and one will find the answers to his or her questions. The place boasts of stinking garbage, foul smell and unsanitary scenes.

The sheltering structures range from makeshift '*barong-barongs*' to semi-concrete types. These patterns are uneven and dilapidated.

Geographical Location

Little Samar is one of the slum sections of the Municipality of Navotas, a town located north of Metro Manila. It is bounded in the north by the main highway of F. Pascual; in the south by Jewels Street; and in the west by the waters of Manila Bay. It has an area of approximately 15-20 hectares. The place is intersected by a number of man-made alleys and blind corners.

A good 80% of the population derived their survival needs from the two (2) water systems: Manila Bay and the Navotas/Tangos River.

Access to Little Samar

The Little Samar area is not visible from the main street that cuts across the eastern part of the area. If a visitor comes from the south, he has an easier access to the place. He only gets to ride a public utility vehicle (jeepney) and he will be dropped off at the entrance of the area. But he has to walk quite a number of few steps before he reaches the exact place. On the other hand, one hailing from the north would have a hard time figuring out where the area may be. It is because he or she would not be boarding off a public utility vehicle exactly where the southerner was dropped off. The one from the north will have to travel another ten to fifteen minutes via the pedicab. This is because he or she will be boarding off at the second main street. In an alley, there is a line of pedicabs that will take anyone anywhere to Barangay San Jose.

The ones from the north and south will gain the same entrance to the area. The slum area of Little Samar is not visible to the sight from the entrance. From the outside and the sides, one would think that the place is inhabited by a number of well-off and middle-income families. Viewing it from there, one would be led to believe that the place looks pleasant enough. From the entrance, the real picture is concealed by towering structures, newly painted houses, a number of videohouses and business establishments.

But the deception only remains there. If one is curious and inquisitive enough, he will discover to his dismay that the place is not what it really is. If he continues to walk on, stagnant, muddy water, buzzing big flies, stinking odor and filth will meet him.

Material Culture

“These refer to man-made part of the environment.”² For one, their housing structures. As mentioned before, their houses ranged from makeshift *'barong-barongs'* to semi-concrete types, that is, a structure made up of concrete and wood. Most of the houses there were of the first type. These *'barong-barongs'* are dilapidated to look at. This is because the houses are made up of worn-out galvanized iron sheets, plywood, rust-filled roofings and used tires. Most of these *'barong-barongs'* are built atop the decaying water systems. Others on once-garbage-now-land areas. Due to lack of land space and increasing family number, the house structure is extended up to the second floor. Making use of available lots, the houses took in different shapes. Common to these are the box-type and the square types.

Despite living in an urban area deprived of social amenities, the residents especially the young generation are not left behind by the fashion world. Their everyday and usual get-ups proved that they are up-to-date on what is in and what is not. When they really dress up, one would not think that they came from the slums. When interviewed on how can they afford to keep up with the fashion trend, they said that they saved their *'baons'* or they do part-time jobs. When they have enough money to buy their *'luhos,'* they will troop to Divisoria and scout for good quality merchandise sold at reasonable prices. According to them, to maximize one's money, one should be

patient enough to walk all over Divisoria and search for his or her heart's desire. "*Matiyaga ka lang maghalukay sa mga bargain stands, ayos ka na. At least, may bago ka ng pang-japorms,*" said one of the guys.

With regards to household possessions, it can be seen that most of them lack the comfortable amenities of life. They do not own televisions nor refrigerators. The common appliances among them are the electric fans and the built-in transistor radios. These are the things that they cannot do without. If a neighbor owns a television, expect that everyday the house is jam-packed with people watching either basketball or wrestling. This is common among store-owners. As always, one will see the store lined up with a throng of bystanders. On the other hand, refrigerator owners made it a business to make ice and sell them a peso each. Those who do not have refrigerators, stock their edible supplies like meat, fish in a styrofoam filled with ice bars.

If one will roam around and take a peek inside the houses of some families in the neighborhood, one will be surprised to discover that some of them owned quite a number of household appliances. Not that they cannot own nor afford it, it is just that (from further probing during interviews) they have the ability to remove themselves from the area. Yes, they can afford to leave the place and buy themselves a new home. These types of people are the so-called professional squatters. These are "individuals or groups who occupy lands without the express consent of the landowner and who have sufficient income for legitimate

² Felipe Landa Jocano, *Slum as a Way of Life: A Study of Coping Behavior in an Urban Environment*, (Manila: 1975), p.21

housing.”³ This term also applies to people who have been previously awarded home lots or housing units by the government but who sold, leased or transferred the same and settled illegally in the same place or in another urban area.

Settling in Little Samar

Most of the Little Samar fisherfolks were peasants way back in Samar. They only took fishing as a part-time occupation so as to augment their income from crop farming. Such is the case of the Little Samar townsfolk who now reside in San Jose, Navotas wherein a total of almost 79% of them hailed from the province of Samar. However, the problem of landlessness, backward agrarian conditions, persistent land monopoly, noncomitant forms of exploitation and peasant displacements due to commercialization of agriculture drove many of them to take fishing as a full-time, although marginal livelihood.

As peasants, their lives are tied to the land. Actually, the land is life itself to them. Back in Samar, the problem of massive landlessness among them proved to be the biggest and most intense problem that has confronted them. Almost 75% of them are landless while the rest own or lease an average of one-half or one hectare of land. They usually harvest 70-80 cavans of palay per season. Obviously, these are not enough to provide for the needs of their families and even more, to sustain the production costs needed in the next planting season. Land rent alone use up as much ten (10) sacks per hectare. To supplement their income, most of them worked as farm-laborers. They rendered their labor-power working in the vast farms

³ “Poverty in The City”, *IBON Facts and Figures*, Vol. XVIII, No. 6, (Sta. Mesa: IBON Publications, Inc, March 31, 1995), p.2.

owned by big comprador-landlords. They were hired in a group or individual basis by lessee, amortizing tenants and owner-cultivators on a seasonal basis that is during periods of transplanting, weeding, harvesting and threshing. Another thing is the so-called 'gama' system. "In exchange for the right to harvest, the farmer-laborer volunteers to weed the farm or transplant seedlings for free. The only advantage gained here by a farm-laborer is that he is assured that he has a filled to harvest at the end of a crop season."⁴

To sustain the high costs of production for the next planting season, the farmers were forced to borrow money from usurers, usually using their lands as collateral. According to them, most of their usurers belong to the landlord and merchant class. An average interest rate of 15-35% per cropping season was imposed on them making it a heavy burden to carry. Aside from this, usurers were able to extract bigger profits from them through a string of conditionalities tied to borrowing money from them. These unscrupulous moneylenders underpriced their produce and overpriced the farm inputs they bought. They also rented out farm equipment at higher rates.

In a quagmire of unimaginable debt, most of the farmers went bankrupt and became tenants and farm-workers. Their lands held as collateral were taken away from them because of their inability to pay. Driven away from their land and the intensifying poverty in the countryside, the swelling number of displaced farmers added up to the army of landless and jobless peasants.

Adding to their misery, past and present government programs on land reform proved to be futile in addressing the centuries-old problem of land monopoly. Since the time of

⁴ Rene E. Ofreco, *Capitalism in Agriculture*, (Quezon City: Foundation for Nationalist Studies, 1980), p.93.

Magsaysay up to the present administration, the implemented land reform laws were only used as a deceptive mechanism to pacify peasant unrest without rooting out landlord monopoly control. After a decade of its implementation, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) is now totally and completely exposed as a sham. Big landlords and owners of agribusiness corporations have even used CARP to grab peasants and indigenous people of their landed properties. In connivance with the bureaucrat capitalists, they enriched themselves at the expense of these peasants through the bogus land reform law.

Unable to bear the debt burden, the exploitation and landlessness, these farmers resorted their attention and might to finding alternative ways of living. Living near the sea, they found fishing a much better way of earning a living. With no more lands to till, they decided to take fishing full time; albeit some of them still cultivate the lands of the big landlords – lands that were once owned by them.

So how did they come to settle in what is now known as the Little Samar area? Well, a group of them were plying the waters of Manila Bay decades of years back. They were in search for rich fishing grounds that will assure them of a “jackpot” catch. Looking for a place to rest, they stumbled upon the uninhabited area of what is Little Samar before. The virgin beauty of the white-sanded beach mesmerized them. The beach was not occupied and they thought that no one owned it. What they did next was to collect their families from Samar and bring them there. Soon, relatives and ‘*kababayans*’ migrated to the area. Later on, it was known as Little Samar because majority of them hailed from the province of Samar. Once an uninhabited place with no wandering soul, the area is now crowded and congested with a less than thousand big families. With fishing as their main source of livelihood, the population is

still growing by the number. Today, other ethnic groups, mostly from the Visayas region are inhabiting the place.

Once a white-sanded beach, the Little Samar area is now a picture of a slum community with dilapidated shanties built on the foreshore lands. The place is surrounded by garbage and half of the seawaters were filled and flattened, not by earth but by garbage accumulated through the years due to the blocking of a river system somewhere in the area. But despite of all these, they wanted Little Samar to be a haven of their existence. It is where they live, where they thrive. If God wills it, they also want to die there. Whatever happens, they are surely bound to fight for it.

Their Livelihood

The families of the Little Samar fisherfolks residing along the coastal area of Manila Bay provided a classic scenario of production units close to their main source of subsistence. A lot of them devote their full time and skills in harnessing the waters for the promise of a bountiful harvest. Everyday, they take the risks of Mother Nature just to find the means of their survival.

Bereft of other livelihood known to the townsfolk, their families merely subsist on meager catch and income. According to the interviewed Little Samar fishermen, in the strata of the fisherfolks' class – that is, the rich, the middle and poor fisherfolks – they said they belong to the poorest of the poor. A whole lot of them comprised this stratum. This is because they use or either a few of them own the most inferior boats, fishing gears and mainly fishes along the shore. To fish farther off from the shore, they lease equipment from

the rich fisherfolks; or more often than not, they render their services to rich fisherfolks engaged in commercial fishing. They usually make up the crew of baby trawls, '*hasnig*' and bancas with 2-3 people capacities. In a nutshell, they are called subsistence fisherfolks.

Going to the sea to catch fish is usually done by 7-9 fishermen on board either in a motorized or not motorized banca. The fishing equipment they use is the traditional paddle, a fishnet of average size, gas and fish line. They go out to the sea starting at five in the afternoon and head back to the shore by six in the morning. Their typical catch consists of '*dilis*,' squid, bangus, *tilapia* and *matambaka*. Before, their catch was a bounty for them. But now, they suffer a dwindling catch due to stiff competition with the commercial fishing vessels. This is because the commercial fishers use "superlight" to lure fishes to their nets.

According to them, they raise the money needed for their operations by having financiers pay for them. When they return back from the sea, their catch goes directly to the hands of their financiers. These financiers act as middlemen between the fishermen and the buyers. The process used in disposing their catch is through bidding. The highest bid for the catch is P40.00 per kilo and the lowest is P25.00 per kilo. Despite the lowest bid of P25.00 per kilo – out of 100 kilos of fish that is for bidding, 95 kilos of fish are underpriced at P16.00 per kilo and the rest are sold at P40.00 per kilo.

To survive, they stretch their meager earnings to provide for their own consumption. Obviously, what is left from the sale of their catch is not enough to buy their needs.

The Legal Struggle for their Land

Last January 9, 1998, a Chinese couple named Danilo and Estrellita Ang filed a case at the Metropolitan Trial Court in the Municipality of Navotas a forcible entry charge against 21 families. According to the defendants (the Chinese couple), allegedly the plaintiffs applied stealth and strategy so as to obtain possession of a substantial part of their land. Originally, the parcel of land being claimed by the defendants belongs to a certain Francisco Pascual. It was known that the land measuring more or less than 1,068 square meters in area was originally registered in the Registry of Deeds in the province of Rizal on June 8, 1902. The aforesaid land was later transferred to the spouses Ang and their other blood relations only in July 1986 at the Registry of Deeds in Caloocan City. The little Samar townsfolk had been there for more than four (4) decades or so. Also, the land being claimed was transferred solely to the Ang couple – Danilo and Estrellita – only on August 1997 at the Registry of Deeds in Malabon, Metro Manila.

The researcher could not establish the real identity of the previous owner of the land for the reason that she was barred from getting information that in whatsoever has a direct or indirect relation to the case. She went to the pertinent municipal office/agency but was later denied access to public documents. Biased it may be, the researcher went to ask the people of her study what they know about a certain Francisco Pascual. From what they heard, he was a very, very distant blood kin of the Ang family. He was a rich and powerful man in Malabon, Rizal during the American occupation. The researcher knew that during those times, the Americans connived with the local elite to gain the good nature of the natives. The

local elite served as intermediaries between the Americans and the local people. This kind of tactics used by the Americans dated back during the Spanish colonial rule.

“The Spanish practice of using the village chiefs as administrative conduits, agricultural progress and commercial linkage with the outside world gradually changed the configurations of traditional village society. The chiefs were transformed into colonial intermediaries between the Spaniards and the people while fulfilling this function became beneficiaries of colonial rule. The *principalia* emerged. Experience with colonial power at its lower levels developed a degree of political awareness among *principales*. A taste of material wealth from the crumbs of colonial exactions whetted their appetites for more. The situation produced a real though latent bifurcation within native society.”⁵

“What American ‘liberation’ really meant became painfully evident soon after the Americans returned. Those who were considered staunch allies were rewarded; those who were regarded as a threat to the status quo were isolated or even persecuted... The colonial elite was again called upon to perform their historic role and history repeated itself. The Spaniards had been able to transform the chiefs into colonial intermediaries; the *ilustrados* compromised the revolution in an effort to preserve their positions, then collaborated with the Americans when they were assured places within the colonial framework; leaders from the same upper stratum collaborated with the Japanese and now the Americans were reimposing the status quo ante with the aid of this same group.”⁶ In their complaint, the Ang family contends that they were already previous co-owners of that land since 1983. But the document of Transfer of Certificate of Title tells otherwise. That parcel of land was only

⁵ Renato Constantino, *The Philippines: A Past Revisited*, Volume 1, (Manila: RC, 1975), p. 395.

⁶ Renato Constantino, *The Philippines: A Past Revisited*, Volume 1, (Manila: RC, 1975), p. 400.

transferred to their names and their relatives' three (3) more years after their claims, that is, in 1986. It only shows that they are already claiming the land even before it was transferred to them legally. They had sole full title of the land only last 1997.

According to their lawyer, the complaint of forcible entry charged by the Ang couple is absolutely unfounded in the law. This is because some of the erected shanties of the plaintiffs were in the vicinity of the Manila Bay and the rest were in the land, which was once covered with

seawater, being a part of the Manila Bay area. The supposedly 'land' where the houses of the plaintiffs stood was once seawater now garbage-filled land. As mentioned, it became 'land' because the accumulated garbage was flattened through the years. The Little Samar folks had been continuously in possession of that land for more than four (4) decades or so, even before the document Transfer Certificate of Title was issued to the Ang family.

Since the 'land' in question lies in the Manila Bay, making it a foreshore land; it only means that the land is a public domain and as such belongs to the State. Therefore, it logically and legally means that the defendants, the claimants have no, in whatsoever right to claim such 'land.' As a public domain, no private individual can acquire nor register such land under the operation of the Torrens System. According to Article 5 of the new Civil Code of the Philippines, acts executed against mandatory laws are null and void; meaning the defendants' claim are considered null and void. And even that Certificate of Land Transfer is proven authentic, such document is still considered void from the very beginning. This means that Mr. Francisco Pascual had no right to buy, own nor register a land that is supposedly a public domain. More so, the concerned Registry of Deeds had no right

whatsoever to issue such documents. But then, Mr. Francisco Pascual registered the parcel of land being claimed way back in 1902. It was known that during those times, local allies were granted rights to acquire properties in exchange for favors done for them.

C. Government Policies and Programs

Under the aegis of the government's development plan, the fisherfolks of Little Samar is currently experiencing a crisis. It is suffering from one of the worst ecological catastrophes. For example, the fishkill and the red tide phenomenon. As usual, such environmental catastrophes are always blamed on the fisherfolks.

Lower catch, depletion and degradation of fish resources, backwardness of technology and poverty. These are but symptoms of a deeper crisis experienced by the Little Samar fisherfolks. This distressing state of the municipal's fishery sector is being addressed by the local government through the country's implementation of policies dictated by two (2) world institutions, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). So, has the cure for the ailing municipal's fishery sector arrived?

Aside from the problems that they encounter as fisherfolks, a lot of concerns also clouded their minds with regards to their depressed urban life. They are living below the poverty line and despite the country's apparent wealth, basic social services remain inaccessible and inadequate in their area. Primary concern of the Little Samar townsfolk is the issue on housing. The residents of Little Samar have somewhat occupied the idle land supposedly owned by the government. Just like the fisherfolks, the Little Samar residents as

urban poor, are included in ' grandiose development program of the country. So what future awaits these urban poor people?

The Social Reform Agenda (SRA)

“The government’s goal of human development has two (2) dimensions: economic growth and social reform,”⁷ Under the Philippines 2000 banner of the Ramos’ administration, the goal is to balance global competitiveness and people empowerment. It “aims for economic development that will be propelled and sustained not only through the promotion of efficiency in the marketplace, but more importantly, through the advancement of social equity in terms of asset reforms, just sharing of the benefits of growth and effective participation in the political and economic mainstream.”⁸

The Social Reform Agenda attempts to put the rhetoric of Philippines 2000 into action. It focuses on specific sectors and identifies their problems.

According to the Ramos’ administration, the primary concerns of the fisheries sector are: “(1) the destruction and overexploitation of their coastal resources and fishing grounds; (2) encroachment into municipal waters by local and foreign commercial fishing vessels; and (3) the reduction of freshwater fishing grounds by illegal infrastructure.”⁹ After identifying the sector’s concerns, the Social Reform Council created specific visions so as to address its problems. Under the fisheries sector, the focus is on Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Conservation, Management and Development.

⁷ *The Social Reform Agenda*, (Philippines: June 7, 1994), p. 7.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

⁹ *The Social Reform Agenda*, (Philippines: June 7, 1994), p. 9.

To achieve this vision, the Social Reform Agenda (SRA) has committed several concrete actions. These include the:

- “active lobbying for the immediate passage of the Comprehensive Fisheries Code and the Magna Carta for the Fisherfolk;
- approval of the Executive Order on the formation of the Fisheries Resource Management Council (FARMCs) at the local levels;
- establishment of specific implementing guidelines on the Local Government’s Code provision to give preferential treatment to the fisherfolk sector the use of municipal fishing grounds;
- implementation of the Seven Lakes Program covering 10-12 percent total area to be used for fish culture;
- review and conduct consultations on project/programs in the CALABARZON reclamation;
- strengthening of ongoing projects, specifically: (a) provision of post-harvest facilities and credit to fisherfolk cooperatives; (b) better enforcement of fisheries laws; (c) provision of basic education services and literacy programs for the fisherfolk.”¹⁰

The Fisheries Code or House Bill 7366 is being reduced to the re-definition of access and ownership of municipal fishing grounds, with the demarcation line drawn in favor of fishlords. The proposed code vows to pursue a limited access policy as opposed to what has

¹⁰ *The Social Reform Agenda*, (Philippines: June 7, 1994), p. 10.

been practiced before. What makes the limited access policy even more threatening is the key provision that redefines municipal fishing. As defined in both the House and Senate versions, “municipal waters are defined as inland bodies of water (except those privately owned, declared as national parks and brackishwater fishponds leased by the government) and marine waters 15 kilometers from the general coastline.”¹¹ This is a basic reorientation from the 7 kilometer demarcation line, which has been set since Marcos time under Presidential Decree 704. Seemingly extending the small fisherfolks access. But under the proposed code, from 3 gross ton capacity of municipal fishing vessels, capacity will be increased from 50-150 gross tons. In effect, the redefinition of municipal fishing opens the territory of the marginal and subsistence fisherfolks to large and medium-scale fishing ventures. Another controversial issue in this proposed code is the disposition of public lands for fishponds. Here, the government institutionalizes the private ownership of municipal fishing grounds thereby exacerbating the existing exploitative relations in fish production... “Upon effectivity of this Code, no Fishpond Lease Agreement (FLA) shall be issued for tidal swamps, mangroves and other swamps, marshes and ponds, foreshore land and coastal area within public lands including those presently declared available for fishpond development. Provided, however, that the existing fishponds covered by FLA shall be exempt from this provision; Provided, further, that upon the expiration of such FLAs, ownership of FLA shall be granted to the present fishpond operators. The next priority shall be given to fisherfolk organizations/cooperatives within the locality...”¹²

¹¹ *The Fisheries Code*, (Manila: IBON Databank and Research Center, 1997), p. 29.

¹² *House Bill 7366*, Tenth Congress, (Philippines: 1999), p.5.

The Social Reform Agenda also supports the creation of the Fisheries and Aqua Resource Management Councils (FARMCs) which are tasked by responsible government agency to monitor, manage, and control fishery resources in municipal waters. These FARMCs are somewhat akin to the ARCs or Agrarian Reform Communities in KPAs or Key Production Area, which serve as guardians of resources, which can be exploited for export. Accordingly, the “FARMCs shall maintain a registry of municipal fisherfolk and regulate fishing by prioritizing fisherfolk organizations. They shall award fisherfolk organizations the preferential right to fish in demarcated areas.”¹³ The promotion of people empowerment and participation is concretized in the formation of the FARMCs. “These are divisive of fisherfolks since FARMCs make use of some fisherfolk to go after their fellow fishers.”¹⁴ The Fisheries Code may showcase the so-called participatory development despite its claims running counter to the best interests of the fisherfolks. It is actually a way of passing government’s responsibility to people’s organization and in the process encourages co-optation between tasked agency and members of people’s organizations.

With regards to the urban poor, the Social Reform Agenda has also addressed its primary concerns. Basically, their problems range from housing matters to inaccessibility to basic social services. Under the SRA, the government commits the faster implementation of the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA). Formulated under former President Aquino, UDHA was a grand plan for urban growth. It “specifies the inventory of lands suitable for socialized housing...government lands should be prioritized by the local

¹³ *The Fisheries Code*, IBON Special Release, (Manila: IBON Philippines, Inc., May 1997), p. 4.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

government units.”¹⁵ For the past years since its implementation, only a few local government units have listed government lands. “The UDHA also discourages demolitions and evictions.”¹⁶ This pronouncement ran counter to the actions inhibited by the government. Actually, demolitions and evictions are number one in their plan of action. The government commits this inhumane act so as to give way to the construction of infrastructure projects dictated by foreign investors. Government-owned lands are sold to foreign investors for the purpose of business. Proof of this are the events behind the National Government Center, Welfareville, Pasig River, North Triangle and Central Market.

The SRA also commits the improvement in the Community Mortgage Program (CMP). It is the socialized housing component of the government’s shelter program. With this, slum dwellers like the Little Samar residents will be able to own the lots they occupy. But is that really the case? It was known that joining this program is hard enough. For one, the urban poor must first register in a homeowner’s association under the Home Insurance and Guarantee Corporation (HIGC). From this homeowner’s association, the urban poor will loan out the total amount of the land from the National Home Mortgage and Finance Corporation (NHMFIC). If the two contracting parties are able to agree on each other’s terms, then the NHMFIC will guarantee the selling and price of the land. The loaned money will then be paid to the owner of the land once a certificate of land ownership is issued in the name of the association. This association will then be responsible for the collection of monthly payments among its members. The agreement between the association and its members is

¹⁵ “The Social Reform Hidden Agenda,” *IBON Facts and Figures*, Vol.XIX, No. 10, (Manila: IBON Phil. Inc., May 31, 1996), p.8.

¹⁶ “Housing and Urban Development,” *IBON Special Release*, (Manila: IBON Phil., Inc., April 1996), p.8.

only a “lease purpose agreement.” In short, the members are only renting the land where their house stood.

Medium Term Fisheries Development Program (MTFMDP)

A component of the grand Philippines 2000 is the Medium term Fisheries Development Program intended for the fisheries sector. In theory, this sectoral development program seeks “to enhance the overall productivity of the country’s fishery resources and improve the socio-economic condition of small-scale fisherfolks.”¹⁷ The visions are to promote aquaculture production, to acquire imported sophisticated technology, seek foreign technical assistance and to private facilities in fishery. “Aquaculture development highlights the export-orientation of the MTFMDP. Targeted species are believed to be export earners. The country is one of the top five producers of prawn and other aquaculture products.”¹⁸ Seen as a way to augment fish supply and to lessen the pressure on overfished areas, aquaculture activity is thought to be the solution. But in reality, it did not increased the availability of fish for the poor people. It only created a luxury for those who can afford especially affluent. Big profit earnings motivate the expansion of this aquaculture. It damages fish habitats, pollute water, and displace peasants and fisherfolks.

The MTFMDP also promotes community-based Coastal Resource Management (CRM). It is “a pitch for the so-called people empowerment thrust of the Ramos’

¹⁷ “The Catch in Fishing”, *IBON Facts and Figures*, Vol. XIX, No. 12, (Manila: IBON Phils. Inc., June 30, 1996), p.3.

¹⁸ The Philippine Fisheries, *IBON Databank and Research Center Peasant Desk*, (Manila: IBON Foundation, 1997), p. 91

government.”¹⁹ The CRM relies on the efforts of the municipal fisherfolk themselves to manage and enforce fishery laws. In practice, it only serves as a tool for co-optation because fisherfolks are tasked to run after fellow fishers.

North Bay Business Park Project

Actually this project had been in the offing since Marcos time. The municipality of Navotas conceptualized it in 1961. Due to lack of funds, the intended project did not push through. It was later on awarded to a certain Mr. Ramon Chuanico and the Shoe Mart (SM) Investments Corporation as business partners. But due to confidential reasons, the project, for the second time did not materialize.

The development project, in coordination with the government agency – the Public Estates Authority (PEA) and the Municipality of Navotas and to be constructed by Mr. Ramon Chuanico and the SM Investments, Incorporated, the project is under evaluation and negotiation.

The North Bay Business Park Project will be located offshore of the Municipality of Navotas. The Navotas Fishport will bound it on the south and the Navotas/Tangos River on the north. Initially, this project was intended to extend to Bataan. But now, negotiations are underway for extensions to Cavite and Batangas. The project will measure 653.25 hectares of reclaimed land along Manila Bay. The project area will primarily be approached through Radial Road 10 (R-10) veering inwards towards the Dagat-Dagatan Project of the National Housing Authority. Proposals for extensions of Circumferential Roads 4 and 5 (C-4 and C-5)

¹⁹ “The Catch in Fishing”, *IBON Facts and Figures*, Vol. XIX No. 12, (Manila: IBON Phils. Inc., June 30, 1996), p.3.

are underway. It is believed to effectively provide developmental impetus to the proposed reclamation project. The intended project is proposed for a mixed-use development that is for residential, commercial and industrial use.

But whatever this project intends to promote, the underlying agenda is that it will displace the fisherfolks and the people living along the coasts of Manila Bay. The people of Little Samar will be deeply affected by the said project. The court battle between the people of Little Samar and the Ang family can be seen as a parcel of the grand hidden agenda. As discussed, the Ang family is claiming the land where the house structures of the townsfolk of Little Samar stood. The question here is that: why are they claiming the land after so many decades that passed? Take note, not years but decades. Some people thought that the local government is behind this problem. They thought that the local officials “negotiated” with the Ang family about claiming the land. They heard rumors about how large the sum of money the family will receive once the land is claimed. The local government cannot push through the project if the foreshore land is not reclaimed yet. According to Public Estates Authority (PEA), “as a government corporation, we are mandated to undertake reclamation projects... the North Bay Business Park Project being a development project to be situated along the Manila Bay area will be handled initially by the agency... we are to determine first the viability of the project...”²⁰ Accordingly, what the municipality of Navotas and the private sector has to do first is to reclaim the land first. That means the foreshore land must be placed first in the possession of the proponents’ party. But then, the Little Samar folks inhabit the land.

²⁰Interview, Mrs. Josefina Castro, Deputy Manager of Project Evaluation and Development Office of Public Estates Authority, (Makati City: September 1999).

The primary issue here is the possible displacement or total eviction of the people residing in the foreshore. The Radial Road 10 (R-10), which is where the project will ingress and egress is now undergoing widening construction. There are 17,200 families in 12 barangays that will surely be affected by the said project. The widening construction of R-10 has started and demolitions are in a continuous basis.

If the North Bay Business Park Project will start its operations, more or less than a thousand families will be affected. The people will be evicted from the very source of their livelihood. A lot of them have no other place to go. They cannot go back to their provinces anymore because they have nothing to live on there. The selfish landlords had grabbed their lands. They left their place to go to the city in search for greener pastures. They discovered that leaving their place in exchange for the wild city is like living in hell. In the city, *'mas mahirap ang buhay.*

'Sa probinsya, masipag ka lang, mabubuhay ka na; dito maghapon ka nang kayod ng kayod, kulang pa para sa iyo...' said one of the interviewed fisherman.

The project was quite known to the people. But despite this, they were not consulted about this. All they knew was that it was for their community's development. It is known that any project intended for a community must be first consulted to the people. They should be included in the decision-making that will affect them later on. But then, that never happened. Consultations and negotiations only occurred between PEA, the Municipality of Navotas, the private sector and the investors.

They were told that once the project and even after its completion, employment opportunities for the municipality will boost up. But then, this does not hold true for the

community. For sure, the jobs being offered are those on contractual basis and wages are below the minimum wage. On the other hand, investments made will not really improve the municipality's level of urbanization. More than ever, it will exacerbate the people's condition. Investments are reserved for greater profit earnings and not to urbanize the place.

It is such a pity that these people has no one to depend on for help. The people or agency that they thought could help them only turned to them with blind eyes and deaf ears.

CHAPTER 3: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

Based on the profile of the community, the Little Samar area has a population of seven hundred (700). More or less, it is made up of one hundred ten (110) families. Out of the 700 population, the researcher utilizing the survey method by distributing questionnaires had fifty (50) people for respondents. In summation, that is, 7.14% of the total population.

The fifty (50) respondents were chosen through the non-probability sampling method, specifically the accidental sampling method. In order that the needed number of samples is met, the researcher used this sampling method (accidental sampling method). Due to time constraint, unavailability of the people (because of their job) and shallow interest on the topic survey, the researcher had chosen her respondents by chance; meaning, whoever is willing and able to sacrifice a few minutes of their precious time; that is, taking time-out to answer the survey questionnaires. Also, the researcher resorted to survey-turned interview to maximize the number of her respondents.

A. PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 1. Sex of the Respondents

Sex	N = 50	Percentage
Male	50	100%
Female	0	0%
TOTAL	50	100%

In Table 1, it can be seen that the researcher had all her 50 respondents belonging to the male specie and not a single female was represented in the gathered data; that is

100% of the respondents were males and 0% for the females. This was because the males were the head provider of the family and direct participants of the production. Another logical reason why all the respondents were males was because the researcher went to the area during the times they were taking their '*siesta*' (before and after lunch). The men were either resting after a long night-out in the sea or making plain '*tambay*' to chat with the neighbors. The women, on the other hand, were just too busy attending to their chores. They were either bustling with their household chores or preoccupied in baby-sitting a lot of kids. In fact, in one house, the researcher was requested to baby-sit the youngest among a brood of ten while the mother was cooking lunch and the father answering the questionnaire.

Table 2. Age Bracket of the Respondents

Age	N = 50	Percentage
18 – 25	1	2%
26 – 33	2	4%
34 – 41	5	10%
42 – 49	12	24%
50 – 57	25	50%
More than 50	5	10%
TOTAL	50	100%

Table 2 shows the different age brackets of the respondents. Half of the total number of respondents were within the age bracket of 50-57 and had the highest percentage of 50%. Second in line was the 24% of the respondents were within the age bracket of 42-49. The male respondents who were under the age bracket of 34-41 and who were more than 50 years of age were represented by 5 respondents each; thereby having 20% of the total percentage of the respondents combined. Followed by the age

bracket of 26-33 with only 2 respondents and 1 respondent from age bracket 18-25. The youngest respondent was only 18 years old and the oldest was 59.

Table 3. Civil Status of the Respondents

Civil Status	N = 50	Percentage
Single	4	8%
Married	40	80%
Widow/cr	2	4%
Separated	4	8%
TOTAL	50	100%

From the table above, eighty percent (80%) of the total number of male respondents were married. The single and separated males accounted for only 8% each and for the widower, only 2 out of the 50 males which had the lowest percentage of 4%.

Table 4. Place of Birth of the Respondents

Place of Birth	N = 50	Percentage
Province	38	76%
Manila	3	16%
Other cities aside from Manila	4	8%
TOTAL	50	100%

Including this small piece of information about the respondents' profile is significant enough. This is relevant with regards to the discussion as to how they came to settle in the Little Samar area. As expected, more than three-fourths of the total male respondents were born in the province; accounting to 76%. Eight (8%) came from other cities.

Table 5. Provinces Where the Respondents Came From

Province	N = 38	Percentage
Samar	30	78.94%
Bohol	3	7.89%
Leyte	3	7.89%
Pampanga	1	2.63%
Negros	1	2.63%

Based on the tabulated data on Table 4, a total of 76% of the respondents were born in the province. So out of the 50 respondents, 38 came from the province.

From the gathered data, only five (5) provinces appeared in the tabulation. These provinces are Samar, Bohol, Leyte, Negros and Pampanga. Obviously, most of the respondents hailed from Samar, about 30 out of the 38 respondents or 78.94% of the total percentage. Bohol and Leyte, accounting to only 7.89% each follow this. Last is the province of Negros and Pampanga, with only 1 respondent each.

Table 6. Level of Education Attained by the Respondents

Level of Education	N = 50	Percentage
Elementary	18	36%
Secondary	3	6%
Tertiary	1	2%
Vocational	1	2%
None	27	54%
TOTAL	50	100%

Driven by abject poverty, getting an education for themselves was an impossibility. Living below the poverty line and with the higher cost of education, how can a student's parents be able to send him/her to school? They cannot afford to pay the exorbitant cost of having an education. Much as they want to, they just really cannot. Shown on table 6, a total of 54% did not even have a mere brush of what and how a school looked like inside. In the lowest level of education, only 36% were able to enter the elementary level. From this percentage, only 8 respondents or 16% of them were able to finish the elementary level. On the other hand, 6% of the total number of respondents were able to have reached the secondary level. Out of this 6%, only 2% or only one of the 50 total respondents had finished high school. With regards to the tertiary

level, there was only 2% who have attended college. That 2% only accounts for only a single human being. He may have reached college but he never got hold of any diploma at all. He stopped schooling because his parents can no longer afford to send him through school. About vocational education, it is the same with the college level. Only 2% that means only 1 out of the 50 total respondents had studied or attended vocational and technical schools.

B. SURVEY QUESTIONS

Residency in Little Samar

Table 7. Years of Stay in Little Samar

Years of Stay	N = 50	Percentage
1 – 10	2	4
10 – 20	5	10
20 – 30	8	16
30 – 40	7	14
More than 40 years	28	56
TOTAL	50	100

Depicted on Table 7 is a concrete evidence of what the Little Samar folks claimed as true. A total of 56% of the respondents claimed that they lived and established their lives in Little Samar for more than 4 decades or so. Followed by 16% that is 8 of total respondents claimed that they have been residing in the area for 2 to 3 decades. Seven (7) respondents said that they were born, grew up, got married and had kids in the area after staying there for more than 3 decades. Not more than 3 decades were 7 respondents accounting for 14% of the total percentage.

Table 8. Place of Origin before Settling in Little Samar

Where did they came from	N = 50	Percentage
Province	38	76%

City	12	24%
TOTAL	50	100%

As mentioned in the profile of the respondents, 76% out of 100% of the total respondents came from the province; that is 38 out of the 50 respondents did not stay nor live in the city. From these 38 people, 30 hailed from the Samar province. On the other hand, 24% came from the city – 15% from Manila; 5% from Quezon City and 4% from Caloocan City. Actually, most of the respondents who hailed from various cities were victims of demolitions.

Table 9. Reasons for Settling in Little Samar

What made them to settle	N = 50	Percentage
Livelihood	30	60%
Relatives living in the area	8	16%
No place to go	10	20%
Other Reasons	2	4%
TOTAL	50	100%

From the survey and interviews the researcher had done, this is what she discovered: that more than 50% of the respondents settled in the place because of livelihood. Their decision to stay was for economic reasons. Being a coastal community, the source of subsistence was no problem at all. Thus, it accumulated a total of 60%, this being the highest percentage of all. For a total of 20%, the reason that they have no place to go, ranked second. Driven away from their hometown because of land problems, they went to the city and tried their luck. Unfortunately, luck did not come their way. Due to poverty and no place to go, they established or joined the coastal urban poor community of Little Samar. Ranking third, 8 respondents claimed that they have blood kin residing in the area. So just one, big family, they came and joined their relatives. Other reasons

cited were (1) she ran away from home and ended up living here, and the other was (2) he decided to take his chance in the city to find his luck. This accounted for only 4%.

Table 10. Plans to Stay

Plans to Stay	N = 50	Percentage
Permanent	35	70%
Temporary	5	10%
Not sure	10	20%
TOTAL	50	100%

Out of the 50 respondents, 35 of them decided that they were there to stay permanently. It can be noted that most of the 35 respondents had lived all their lives here. It was in Little Samar that they were born, matured, got married, had kids and even grandchildren. They believed that the place was theirs to own. On the other hand, only 5 respondents claimed that they were only staying there for a temporary period of time. They said that they want their children to grow up in a decent place. They had experienced living there and they do not want their kids to live in a place that is unhealthy and below living standards. This was what a certain couple said: “*bilang magulang, gusto namin ang pinakamabuti para sa aming mga anak.*” Meanwhile, 10 respondents claimed that they were not sure if they were going to live there permanently or not. “*Bahala na,*” they said. A typical Filipino attitude, entrusting the future to whatever happens.

Life and Livelihood

Table 11. Source of Livelihood

Working as	N = 50	Percentage
Fisherman	34	68%
Laborer/Worker	12	24%
Small Businessman	4	8%

Big Businessman	0	0%
TOTAL	50	100%

Being a coastal community, it would not be a surprise if fishing, as a source of livelihood got the highest percentage, that is 68%. Twenty-four percent (24%) of the total respondents rendered their labor-power and worked in factories, ice plants, electrical shops and the like. The remaining 8% were small businessmen selling fishballs, *taho*, or they had their own small *sari-sari* store. As you can see, 0% for the big businessmen. That's clearly understood.

Table 12. Years Spent on This Kind of Livelihood

For How Long?	N = 50	Percentage
1-5 years	5	10%
6-10 years	8	16%
11-15 years	5	10%
16-20 years	10	20%
More than 20 years	22	44%
TOTAL	50	100%

Depicted on Table 12 is the length of time the respondents has spent on that type of livelihood. Twenty-two (22) respondents or 44% of them had that kind of job for more than 20 years. Out of these 22 respondents, 19 of them were fishermen. Meanwhile, 20% of the total respondents were engaged in that kind of job for almost 16 to 20 years. Followed by 16% were those who had the job for less than a decade to be exact. Both accounting for 10% were those under the 1-5 and 11-15 years of having that kind of job.

Table 13. Monthly Income of Respondents

Monthly Income	N = 50	Percentage
P1,000.00	20	40%
P2,000.00	19	38%
P3,000.00	8	16%
More than P3,000.00	3	6%

TOTAL	50	100%
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When asked about the income they are able to generate every month, 40% of them had the monthly income of only P1,000.00; followed by 38% at P2,000.00 a month. Sixteen percent (16%) claimed that they earn an amount of P3,000.00 per month and last but not the least, only 6% of the total respondents gain an income of more than P3,000.00 a month. The mentioned incomes were mere estimations. Their monthly incomes could vary anytime depending on certain factors and of course, the nature of their work. But one thing is for sure, most if not all of these factors contribute to the downtrend of incomes.

Table 14. Respondents' Status in Their Job

Job Status	N = 50	Percentage
Permanent	5	10%
Contractual	11	22%
Daily basis	33	66%
Commission	0	0%
Trainee	1	2%
TOTAL	50	100%

Garnering the highest percentage of 66%, 33 respondents worked on a daily basis. They may be fishermen, workers or small businessmen. Twenty-two percent (22%) were considered contractual in their jobs. Due to job flexibility scheme and the desire of employers to attain greater efficiency in production, only a minimum of 10% of the total respondents has the status of permanency in their job. No percent for commission-job status and a 2% for the trainees.

Table 15. Hours Spent on The Job

Hours Spent	N = 50	Percentage
2-4 hours	3	6%
4-6 hours	5	10%

6-8 hours	11	22%
More than 8 hours	31	62%
TOTAL	50	100%

As usual, the degrading quality and high cost of living had forced these men to work beyond eight (8) hours. But who can blame them? They have a family to provide and a life to live. Sad to say, 62% of them worked themselves for more than 8 hours. Still accounting for quite a high percentage of 22% are those working 6-8 hours. Followed by 10% and 20%, working 4-6 and 2-4 hours, respectively.

Table 16. Respondents' Subsistence

Is it enough?	N = 50	Percentage
Yes	8	16%
No	42	84%
TOTAL	50	100%

Despite working beyond eight (8) hours, they still have a low income. Looking at these data plus their job status, it is no surprise that 84% of the total respondents claimed that everything is not enough for them. Only sixteen (16%) said that they can have a minute rest and breathe a while.

Truly, life is hard for these people.

Table 17. Existence of Livelihood Projects

Are there Livelihood Projects Implemented?	N = 50	Percentage
Yes	5	10%
None	36	72%
Don't Know	9	18%
TOTAL	50	100%

Seventy-two percent (72%) of the total percentage of respondents believed that none whatsoever had been implemented in their community; eighteen percent (18%) do

not even know if there had been, just even one or none at all; ten percent (10%) said that there had been one like weaving crafts for household women.

Table 18. Immediate Concerns of the Community

Primary Problems	N = 50	Percentage
Livelihood	15	30%
Demolition	5	10%
Relocation	6	12%
Legal Battle Over land	21	42%
Basic Social Services (educ., health..)	3	6%
TOTAL	50	100%

When asked about their primary concerns in the community right now, 42% said that they were getting emotionally and financially drained in a legal battle over the land where their houses stood. Thirty percent (30%) said that livelihood were their primary problem. The reason for this could be reflected from the past tables. Relocation follows next with 12%. Six (6) respondents were scared that if ever the reclamation project pushes through, relocation is sure to be the next step. More so, the demolition as a reason ranked third with 10%; followed by basic social services with 6%.

Table 19. Government's Response About Their Problems

Are there Steps Taken by The Government?	N = 50	Percentage
Yes	8	16%
None	42	84%
TOTAL	50	100%

As part of the development program – Philippines 2000, the urban poor and the fisherfolks are just two of the sectors supported by the government. Just like any development program that preceded the current administration, alleviating poverty and people empowerment are their battlecry. But how can one empower people if their

Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) are not met? How can one alleviate the people's dire situation when nobody, not even one show a little concern at all?

When asked about if the government had taken any steps to address their immediate problems and needs, 84% of them said that the local government had done nothing at all. Actually, they even made everything worse, as one of the respondents said. The remaining 16% said that yes, the government had done something to address their concerns.

Knowledge on the North Bay Business Park Project (NBBPP)

Table 20. Awareness about the North Bay Business Park Project

Awareness about NBBPP	N = 50	Percentage
Yes	46	92%
No	4	8%
TOTAL	50	100%

Ninety-two percent (92%) of the total respondents asserted that such project really does exist. They claimed that this project will cover the foreshore of Manila Bay all the way to Cavite and Batangas. They were told that this project is meant for the development and urbanization of the municipality of Navotas.

Table 21. Instrument of Information

Where Did They Learn the Project?	N = 50	Percentage
Radio	0	0%
Television	0	0%
Newspaper	0	0%
Hearsay	23	46%
Friends	20	40%
Barangay Captain or other local officials	7	14%

Others	0	0%
TOTAL	50	100%

It is quite alarming that this kind of information that will surely affect the people had not been disseminated to the people through the various major forms of media like the radio, television and newspaper. Not even one claimed that they got the information from any of the media; thus the 0% for them. With the highest percentage of 46%, the respondents said that they learned about the project through hearsay/gossips. From friends, a 20% for them. The researcher knew that this kind of information gathered in this manner is not reliable and not to be trusted. To confirm if the project really exists, she went to the Public Estates Authority (PEA) – the government agency that handles and manages this kind of project. According to Mrs. Josefina Castro, (the department manager of the Project Evaluation and Development Department Office of PEA), the project really exists. It is under negotiation.

Lastly, fourteen percent (14%) got the information either from the barangay captain and some local officials. The information was disseminated to them not because of the officials' obligation to do so but rather it was sort of accidental. The existence of such project was accidentally uttered in a drinking bout or was used to scare away the respondents.

Table 22. Respondents' Reactions to the Said Project

Reaction	N = 50	Percentage
Got Mad	2	4%
Scared	15	30%
Surprised	16	32%
Happy	5	10%
Don't Care	5	10%
No Reaction	7	14%
TOTAL	50	100%

Upon learning the North Bay Business Park Project, the respondents had varied ways of expressing their initial reactions. Thirty-two percent (32%) said that at first they were surprised and do not even want to believe it. As one respondent put it: “*O talaga! Maniwala ako sa iyo!*” Thirty percent (30%) got scared when they heard about the project. A lot of them already know what this entails. So what they did was to hold a meeting and deliberate on its pros and cons. A total of 14% had no reaction at all. Actually, some of them just shrugged off their shoulders when interviewed by the researchers. A ten percent (10%) each for both set of respondents who were happy and who do not care at all. Those 10% who were happy expressed that at last there will be something to be proud of in their community. Also, they believed that this project is for the development of their community and as well as the entire municipality. Another 10% goes to those who do not care if there is a project or none at all. For them it does not matter if there is one. “So what?” they would say. They would not benefit either way. It is not for their sake or they would be driven away once the project go on full swing. Four percent (4%) said that they got mad upon learning the project. They are tired and hated going away and looking for another for another new place to build their homes for their family.

Table 23.A. Those Who Agree to be Resettled and Reasons Why

Agreed to be Resettled	N = 15	Percentage
No choice	2	13.3%
Do not want trouble	2	13.3%
Hoping for a more decent life	7	46.7%
Will leave if paid	4	26.6%
TOTAL	15	100%

Table 23.B. Those who Disagree to be Resettled And Reasons Why

Disagree to be Resettled	N = 35	Percentage
No place to go	9	25.7%
Economic reasons	9	25.7%
Had already built a house	7	20%
It is our right to stay	10	28.5%
TOTAL	35	100%

Table 23 reveals the respondents who agree and who are against resettlement. In Table 23A, there are only 15 respondents who agreed to be resettled somewhere else. Topping the list are the seven (7) respondents who are hoping for a more decent life in the resettlement area. They accounted for 46.7% of the total percentage of samples. More than 26% agreed to leave the place only if they will get paid. Accounting for 13.3% each are those who have no choice at all and who do not want trouble. On the other hand, Table 23B shows that 35 respondents are against the idea of being resettled anywhere else. Ten (10) respondents claimed that they will stay no matter what. They said that it is their right to stay. Nine (9) respondents each affirmed that they have no place to go and due to livelihood are the reasons why they do not want to leave. The remaining seven (7) said that they have already built house structures in the area.

From the presentation of data above, it can be deduced that the Little Samar townfolk are living life the hard way. Everyday that pass, they try to cope up with the harsh realities of life. Living below the poverty line, they try to make up what is left from life itself.

Relying on the vastness and bounties of the sea, the Little Samar fisherfolks are the poorest of the poor. So ironic that despite the fact that they are the ones who toil and harness the seas, they remain bereft of any gains from a supposedly bountiful industry.

The Little Samar fisherfolks challenge the risk of Nature by harnessing the sea beyond eight (8) hours. But who can blame them? They have to work and earn much so as to augment their daily needs. Despite working for more than eight hours, these fishermen only earn a thousand a day. They face a lot of problems regarding their livelihood. Fishing, being their primary source of income, is experiencing a downtrend. All their concerns about their source of subsistence were brought about by the varied policies and programs implemented by the government. With regards to their status as urban poor, their income is barely enough to suffice for life's basic necessities. Because of this severe economic difficulties they experience, the children and the youth are forced to leave or much so not start schooling. Instead of getting an education inside the four walls of a classroom, these children are out there plying in the streets in search of a livelihood, whether decent or indecent, to support their families. This accounts for the large percentage of the respondents who grew old and yet did not even reach a higher level of education. Faced with the exorbitant cost of decent housing, the Little Samar townsfolk contented themselves with makeshift houses in the slums. They are deprived of the basic social services. The place is really not fit for decent living.

CHAPTER IV: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The promise of bountiful harvests drove the Little Samar fisherfolks to harness the waters as well as their skills. Everyday, they face the challenge of Nature just to survive.

The semi-colonial and semi-feudal society breeds pervasive social disparities. Wealth, power and resources are in the hands of the privileged few. Meanwhile, the Little Samar fisherfolks are struggling hard enough to live and provide their family. They do not own the means of production. The means of production are highly centralized among the few elite, who are mostly Chinese. The backward technologies used by the Little Samar fisherfolks are highly at odds compared with those of the local and foreign fishing corporations. They lack the ways and means to sail the waters and catch their quarry. A lot of them who are engaged in capture fishing do not have their own boats. They lease out from commercial fishers (for example, the Frabelle Fishing Corporation). Those who have their own boats can be considered inferior. Most of them, too, employ backward means of fishing and thus, yield a minimum of 2-3 kilos of fish per harvest. To augment their hard-earned meager incomes, they render their labor-power working in menial jobs. Some of them worked in electronic shops, harbors, factories, etc. During certain days when their catch is good, the fisherfolks of Little Samar peddle their bountiful catch in Agora (the local wet market) or worse, to fish traders and consigners who mercilessly underprice their catch.

Monopoly ownership and control of fishery resources breeds the exacerbating exploitation of the fisherfolks. These practices have forced the local fisherfolks of

Navotas to work more and earn less. Representing the landlord clique in fishery are the merchants and usurers. These people are preoccupied with exploiting the marginal local fisherfolks. From simple fishing gears to sophisticated ones are controlled by this class. When these poor fisherfolks lease or rent out these fishing gears, the usurers overprice them. They pass the escalating costs in order to realize the bigger profits they will surely earn. The semi-feudal fishlords underprice the fishers' catch and in turn, earn burgeoning profits by selling them at higher prices. For every peso that they loan out to the Little Samar fishers, they place high interest rates thereby accumulating bigger profits.

The municipal fisheries sector is in a decline. Dominated by local compradors who thrive on raking huge monopoly profits, the fishery sector is forced to serve the glory of a rotting colonial trading system. Proof of this: the greater bulk of the Little Samar fisherfolks' produce is attuned to the demands of foreign export markets. On the other hand, the local demand for fish is being satisfied through the increasing dependence on imports.

The development strategy of the Ramos' administration is anchored on the big word: GLOBALIZATION. President Ramos who did not want the country to be left behind by the global world, aligned and incorporated his Philippines 2000 to the big game plan of the US monopoly capital. The Philippines 2000 pushes through the integration of the local economy to the big playing field of the globalized world. In consonance with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the World Trade Organization (WTO)-General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) trade and investment principles, the joint fisheries agreements, laws and policies are implemented by the Ramos' administration.

The Medium Term Fisheries Management and Development Program (MTFMDP) is the country's globalization thrust for the fishery sector. This program seeks to double the productivity of aquaculture activity and commercial fishery. This is happening in the Little Samar fishing community. This is due to the increasing demand of the international export market. This spawned the phenomenal boom of aquaculture activity and the aggressiveness of commercial operations in the territorial waters of the country. The growing demand basically spurs the expansion of aquaculture in the municipality. This activity paved the way for the enactment of Republic Act 7881 exempting prawn farms and fishponds from free distribution to fisherfolk cooperatives.

The Philippines is up for the enactment of the Fisheries Code. The big loser here is the small marginal fisherfolks like the Little Samar fishers. It gives legitimacy and institutionalizes monopoly plunder. Monopoly plunder is a vital prerequisite for globalization. If enacted, this would lead to nonstop operations of large-scale fishing vessels in municipal fishing grounds. Ownership of vast tracts of fishponds and prawn farms will be confined to old and new aquaculture monopolies. The presence of foreign commercial fishing vessels in the municipal fishing grounds accelerates the depletion of the country's aquatic resources.

Before, fishing grounds and communities are merely confined to dominions of large-scale production geared for export. Now, these are relegated to host the growing regional industrial enclaves. The government is fast-tracking constructions of dock facilities, infrastructures and commercial complexes. These facilities are constructed along bays, rivers, lakes and foreshore areas.

Investments' facilitation under the Philippines 2000 banner creates harrowing experiences for the townsfolk living along the coastal areas. To ensure that development projects will not be delayed and derailed, total eviction of these coastal folks are being done. Same as the proposed North Bay Business Park Project in Navotas. This project aims to convert the coastal area of Manila Bay into an international gateway to host commercial and industrial projects meant for foreign and local giant corporations.

The administration's globalization thrusts have drastically converted the lives of the fisherfolks. Their lives turned from bad to worse. Living amidst the bounty of the sea, they continue to drown in dire poverty. "The country may be located where tropical waters are known to be rich in marine life, but its fisherfolk are also known to be the poorest of the lot. A continuing irony...."

No matter what, they are still looking forward to a bountiful life ahead. Someday, there will come a time that they can and will enjoy the fruits of their hard labor.

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APPENDICES

APPENDICES

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MANILA
Corner Padre Faura & Maria Orosa St.
Ermita, Manila

Dear Sir/Madam:

Good Day to You!

I, Ivy Velarde Manalansan, a fourth year college student taking up BA Development Studies at the University of the Philippines, would like to request your good office to extend me some assistance concerning my project study on the socio-economic-political situation of the townfolk of Little Samar in San Jose, Navotas. This project study will serve as my undergraduate thesis. I would like to ask your assistance whether your office could allow me to conduct surveys, interviews and if possible, have a copy of written documents and pertinent data vital in pursuit of my goal, that is finishing and presenting this project study.

Hoping for your kind consideration on this matter.

Thank You!!!

Respectfully Yours,
Ivy Velarde Manalansan

Thesis Adviser:
Prof. Roland Simbulan

Magandang Araw Po!

Ako po ay isang mag-aaral ng kursong *Development Studies* sa *Unibersidad ng Pilipinas* (UP) Manila. Sa kasalukuyan po ay may isinasagawa akong pag-aaral tungkol sa pangkalahatang kalagayan ng mga mamamayan ng Little Samar. Kaugnay po nito, ako po ay nagsasagawa ng *survey*. Sinisigurado ko po na ang mga magiging kasagutan sa mga katanungan sa ibaba ay mananatiling *confidential* at gagamitin lamang para sa pag-aaral na ito.

Maraming salamat po!

Ivy Velarde Mamalansan

@@

Pangalan: _____ Edad: _____
Kasarian: _____ Kaiagayang Sibil: _____
Lugar ng Kapanganakan: _____
Etnikong Grupong Kinabibilangan: _____
Antas ng Pinag-aralan: _____
Bilang ng Miembro ng Familia: _____

A. UKOL SA PANINIRAHAN SA LITTLE SAMAR

1. Ilang taon na po ba kayong naninirahan sa Little Samar? _____
2. Saang lugar po kayo nanggaling bago kayo nanirahan dito sa Little Samar?
___ probinsya ___ lunsod * banggitin po kung saan
3. Paano po kayo napadpad sa Little Samar?
___ hanapbuhay ___ walang matuluyan/matirhan
___ narito ang mga kamag-anak ___ iba pang dahilan (banggitin po)
4. Balak po ba ninyong manirahan dito ng permanente?
___ Oo ___ Hindi ___ Hindi Sigurado
5. Anc ang (mga) dahilan kung bakit nais ninyong manatili pa dito sa Little Samar?
Narito ang: ___ hanapbuhay ___ nakapagtayo na ng bahay
___ narito ang mga kamag-anak ___ dito na nagkaisip
___ walang ibang mapupuntahan ___ iba pang dahilan (banggitin)

B. UKOL SA HANAPBUHAY AT PANGKABUHAYAN

1. Ano po ba ang inyong hanapbuhay?
 mangingisda manggagawa
 maliit na negosyante malaking negosyante
2. Ilang taon ninyo na po itong hanapbuhay?
 1-5 taon 11-15 taon 21-25 taon
 6-10 taon 16-20 taon higit pa (banggitin po)
3. Sa loob ng isang (1) buwan, magkano po ang inyong kinikita? Sa inyong tantiya:
 P1,000.00 P2,000.00 P3,000.00 higit pa (banggitin po)
4. Ano po ang inyong katayuan ninyo sa inyong hanapbuhay?
 permanente kontraktual arawan commission trainee
5. Mang oras po sa maghapon ang iniuukol ninyo sa nasabing hanapbuhay?
 2-4 oras 4-6 oras 6-8 oras higit pa (banggitin po)
6. Mayroon po ba kayong ibang hanapbuhay maliban sa inyong unang binaggit?
 Mayroon Wala
Kung mayroon, ano po ito? _____
7. Bilang ng miembro ng familia na may hanapbuhay: _____
Ano po ang kanilang hanapbuhay? _____
8. Sapat po ba ang inyong kabuuang kinikita para sa pangangailangan ng inyong familia?
 Oo Hindi
9. Mayroon po bang proyektong pangkabuhayan na naisakatuparan na sa inyong lugar?
 Mayroon Wala
Kung mayroon, anu-ano ang mga ito? _____
Sa inyong palagay, nakatulong ba ito sa inyo?
 malaking tulong katamtaman kaunti hindi ewan
Bakit? _____
Ano ang inyong masasabi sa pamamalakad ng nasabing proyekto/mga proyekto?
 epektibo hindi epektibo ewan
10. Kung wala pang naisakatuparan, anu-anong proyektong pangkabuhayan ang sa inyong palagay ay makakatuiong sa inyong lugar? _____
11. Lalahok ba kayo? Oo Hindi
12. Sa inyong palagay, anu-ano po ba ang mga suliranin ang kinakaharap ninyo ngayon? _____

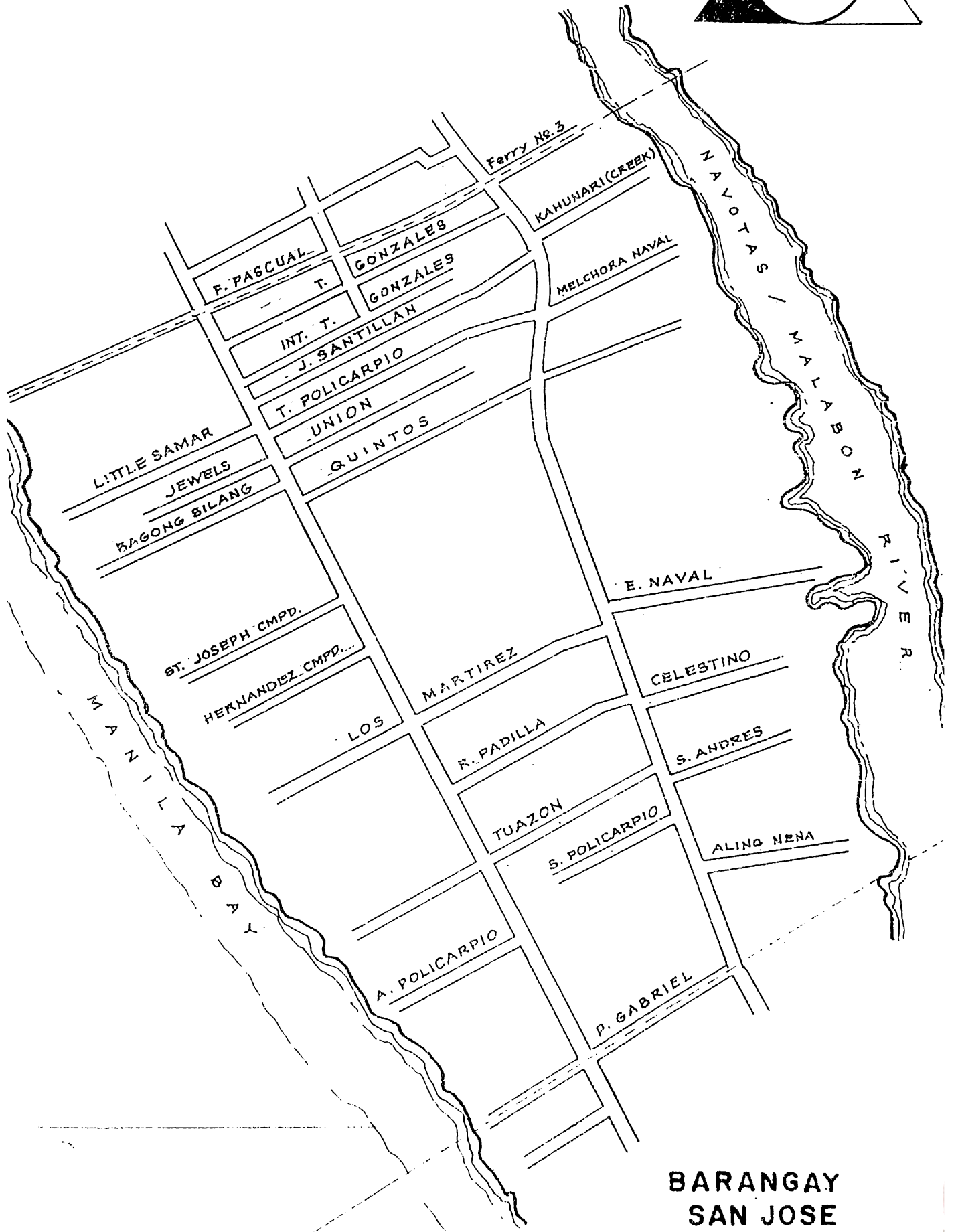
13. Sa mga nabanggit, alin ang pinakapangunahin para sa inyo? _____
14. May ginagawa bang hakbang ang ating pamahalaan upang mabigyang-lunas ang suiraning ito? ___ Mayroon ___ Wala
Kung mayroon, ano po ito? _____

C. UKOL SA KAALAMAN SA NORTH BAY BUSINESS PARK PROJECT

1. Alam po ba ninyo ang planong "NORTH BAY BUSINESS PARK PROJECT" na itatayo sa inyong lugar? ___ Oo ___ Hindi
2. Kung napag-alaman na po ninyo ang nasabing plano, kanino/saan po ninyo ito nalaman? ___ radyo ___ anunsyo/paskil ___ barangay captain at ibang
___ telebisyon ___ sabi-sabi ___ opisyal ng pamahalaan
___ pahayagan ___ kakilala/kaibigan ___ at iba pa
3. Ano po ang inyong naging reaksiyon sa nasabing plano? _____
4. Kung kaakibat ng nasabing plano ay ang mapaalis kayo sa inyong lugar, papayag po ba kayong malipat sa isang resettlement/relocation area? ___ Oo ___ Hindi
Bakit? _____
5. Kung ayaw po ninyo o kung kayo po ay hindi palarin na mapagkalocoban ng bahay sa relokasyon, mayroon po ba kayong ibang mapupuntahan? ___ Mayroon ___ Wala
Kung mayroon, saan po kayo pupunta/lilipat? _____
6. Ano po ang nais ninyong iparating sa ating pamahalaan ukol sa inyong kalagayan? _____
7. Handa po ba kayong ipaglaban ang inyong karapatan sa inyong lugar?
___ Oo ___ Hindi
a. Bakit? _____
b. Ano po ang balak ninyong gawin? _____

Tungkol sa Pangangisda

- a. Ilang taon na po kayong nangingisda?
___ 1-5 taon ___ 6-10 taon ___ 11-15 taon ___ 16-20 taon ___ higit pa
- b. Sa inyong familia, ilan po ang mangingisda? _____
- c. May sarili po ba kayong bangka? ___ Mayroon ___ Waia
Kung mayroon, ito po ba ay de-motor? ___ Oo ___ Hindi
- d. Sapat po ba ang mga kagamitang mayroon kayo upang makahuli ng marami-maraming isda? ___ Oo ___ Hindi
- e. Ilang oras po ba ang inilalaan ninyo sa pangangisda sa loob ng isang (1) araw?
___ 2-4 oras ___ 4-6 oras ___ 6-8 oras ___ higit pa
Ilang araw po sa isang (1) linggo ang inilalaan ninyo sa pangangisda?
___ 1-3 araw ___ 3-5 araw ___ buong linggo
- f. Sa inyong tantiya, gaano karami ang huli ninyong isda?
- | | Kilo | sa isang araw |
|---------------------|-------|---------------|
| Pinakakaunting huli | _____ | _____ |
| Pinakamaraming huli | _____ | _____ |
| Katamtamang huli | _____ | _____ |
- g. Sa inyong palagay, anu-ano ang mga suliraning kinakatahap ng isang mangingisdang tulad ninyo?
- ___ papaunti ng papaunti ang huli
 - ___ reclamation sa inyong lugar
 - ___ kaunti/kawalang suporta mula sa ating pamahalaan
 - ___ kakulangan sa kagamitan
 - ___ kumpitensya laban sa malalaking barkong pangangisda
 - ___ dynamite fishing
 - ___ iba pang suliranin (banggitin po)



**BARANGAY
SAN JOSE**

1941
1941



1941
1941

HARBOR

1941
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1941

DUPLICATE
re

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
National Capital Judicial Region
Branch
Navotas, M.M.

2-12-99
V: osp
H

Spouses FERDINAND and LORENA SANTOS
Spouses JOSE and FLOR CASBADILLO,
ROSELYN ROMEZ, Spouses TITO and CLARA DELES,
Spouses PRUDENCIO and PACTA DAWATON,
Spouses ISIDRO and LUCILA LIMA
Spouses DANILO and CRESYLLA ACUAN,
Spouses PEDRO A and CONCEPCION CLARA,
Spouses EMILIO and ARTEMIDA ROSET,
Spouses FEDERICO and CITA CASBADILLO,
Spouses MARIANTO and ERMINILIA VILLASIS,
NESTOR JABOYANON, Spouses FELIPE and MARGARITA ERO,
Spouses RODOLFO and ANITA CASBADILLO
Spouses CARITO and MARIA FE CASBADILLO,
Spouses REYNALDO and DOLORES LEONOR
Spouses MEDICO and ADELYN PAMPLONE,
Spouses JULITO and CECILIA JOSE,
Spouse CONRADO and IRMA DELES,
Spouses LAMIE and NESTITA DIGNOC, and
Spouses ROBERTO and LORETA PAGO,

Versus

CIVIL CASE NO. 1-937

FOR:

DECLARATION OF
NULLITY AND INTER-DEON
WITH PRAYER FOR THE
ISSUANCE OF PRELIMINARY
INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER

SPOUSES DANILO ANG AND
ESTRELLITA ANG,

Defendants.

X - - - - - X

C O M P L A I N T
(With Application for the Issuance of Preliminary Injunction
or Temporary Restraining Order)

PLAINTIFFS, by counsel, respectfully state:

1. They are of legal age, citizens of the Philippines and residents of Little

2. Defendants are spouses, of legal age and residents of Title Sumar 14 - San Jose, Navotas, Metro Manila where they may be served with summons, writs and other process of this Honorable Court in connection with this case.

3. On January 9, 1998, defendants filed with the Metropolitan Trial Court, National Capital Judicial Region, Branch 54, Navotas, Metro Manila against plaintiff: complaint for forcible entry; xerox copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "A" and is made part hereof.

4. Attached to the complaint of forcible entry is xerox copy of Transfer Certificate of Title No. M-17248 in the name of the defendants, xerox copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "B" and is made integral part hereof.

In the aforesaid complaint (Annex "A"), defendants alleged that by means of stealth and strategy plaintiff secured possession of a substantial portion of the land covered by the said certificate and erected structures and shanties thereon.

5. Foregoing claim of defendants in their complaint for forcible entry is highly unfounded in law and in fact for the following reasons: (a) the homes of some of the plaintiffs are inside the sea of the Manila Bay, the homes of the rest of plaintiffs are located in the land which was used to be covered with sea water and is part of the Manila Bay but has become dry because of the garbage being carried by the sea water. (b) plaintiffs have been continuously in possession thereof for forty years or more lacking the possession of their predecessors and their homes were already there long before Transfer Certificate of Title No. M-17248 was issued to defendants and neither the government nor defendants had ever tried to disturb plaintiffs' possession thereof, (save the time defendants filed the forcible entry case) even before the repeal of the Anti-Squatting Law.

6. Being a portion of the Manila Bay, the land is part of the land of the public domain and certainly belongs to the State - it logically follows that defendants do not own the property where plaintiffs' homes exist.

8. The rule well-entrenched in this jurisdiction is that lands of the public domain, as the land subject hereto, can not be acquired by private individual much less be registered or brought under the operation of the Torrens System; under Art. 5 of the new Civil Code of the Philippines, it is specifically provided that acts executed against mandatory or prohibitory laws are null and void; the acts that led to the issuance thereof violate mandatory and prohibitory laws, hence, the defendants' aforesaid Certificate is void ab initio and, assuming that the land, wherein plaintiffs' homes are situated, is included in the said Transfer Certificate of Title, such inclusion is void from the very beginning and consequently defendants are bereft of any right to demand exclusion of plaintiffs therefrom.

9. That the land is part of the land of the public domain is a fact established by the records and evidence in the forcible entry case; however, the court trying the same decided against the plaintiffs (defendants therein) by ordering them to vacate; worse it may appear from the decision that each of plaintiffs would pay P1,000.00 every month from January 1998 and considering that they are twenty-one in number, the defendants herein (plaintiffs therein) may be able to get P252,000.00, as rental for one year for the land being occupied with mere shanties and whose assessed value is P76,960.00 and market value is P384,180.00, which on the basis of physical facts, as adduced hereinabove and in the following paragraphs hereof, clearly belongs to the State; attached hereto as Annex "C" hereof is xerox copy of the aforesaid judgment:

10. The court trying the forcible entry case did not order that an ocular inspection be conducted to ascertain the truth of the herein claim of plaintiffs that the shanties are inside the sea, the Manila Bay or in the land of the public domain, the Metropolitan Trial Court should have conducted an inspection considering that the said Transfer Certificate of Title gives warning in its very face that it states Manila Bay as one of the boundary owners;

11. Plaintiffs appealed from the said decision in the forcible entry case to this Honorable Court by filing notice of appeal and paying the appeal fees; because they could not afford to pay the supersedeas bond in the aforesaid amount, it is not retrograde the court will issue a writ of execution pending appeal and the family homes of plaintiffs will be demolished; attached hereto as Annex "D" and is made part hereof is copy of the Notice of Appeal;

12. There is therefore a reasonable necessity to have prior thorough determination of the issue of ownership by this Honorable Court, such an issue having not been passed upon by the Metropolitan Trial Court obviously by reason of the limited jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Trial Court under Batas Pambansa Bilang 122 as amended because in forcible entry the issue involved is prior physical possession, not ownership; it is this Honorable Court having exclusive original jurisdiction to hear and decide the issue of ownership in a civil case involving real property the assessed value of which is more than P20,000.00; the attached Tax Declaration states the total assessed value is P76,900.00;

13. Should this Honorable Court find that the land is indeed a portion of the land of the public domain, the judgment in the forcible entry case perforce becomes likewise a complete nullity, thus, it is consistent with justice that execution of the judgment of the Metropolitan Trial Court pending appeal or writ of execution of judgment be held in abeyance;

14. By the simple act of viewing the land and the plaintiffs' homes, this Honorable Court may be able see that indeed their houses are inside Manila Bay.

15. A certificate of title which is void and nonexistent confers no right and creates no obligation; there is, however, a need for a judicial declaration that it is void and nonexistent the way for the issuance of the injunctive relief plaintiffs have sought; thus, instant complaint;

16. The acts of defendants which are obviously against the law have caused plaintiffs untold mental anguish, sleepless nights, moral shock, wounded feelings and similar injury which although incapable of pecuniary estimation may be conservatively set at P200,000.00;

17. For the public good, defendants should be condemned to pay P100,000.00 as exemplary damages;

18. Plaintiffs were forced to file this action and to contract the services of the undersigned counsel with whom they bind themselves to pay P50,000.00 as attorney's fees;

ALLEGATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE
APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUANCE
OF A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION OR
TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

19. Plaintiffs reproduce herein by reference the foregoing allegations;

20. Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief demanded and the whole or part of such relief consists in restraining the defendants from enforcing and executing the judgment in the forcible entry case;

21. The execution of judgment pending appeal and pending final determination of the merits of this case would probably work injustice to the plaintiffs;

22. Defendants are doing or threatening, or is attempting to do some act probably in violation of the rights of the plaintiffs respecting subject of the action or proceeding and tending to render the judgment herein ineffectual;

23. The plaintiffs are willing to put up a bond in the amount that the Honorable Court may fix executed to defendants to the effect that plaintiffs will pay defendants all damages that they may sustain by reason of the injunction or temporary restraining order if the Court should finally decide that plaintiffs were not entitled thereto.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs respectfully pray that pending final determination of the merits of this complaint a preliminary injunction or temporary restraining order be issued restraining the defendants from enforcing or executing, or from causing it to be enforced or executed, the judgment in the forcible entry case, and after due hearing judgment be rendered, as follows:

1. Making the injunction permanent;
2. Declaring that the homes of plaintiffs are located inside the sea of the Manila Bay;
3. Declaring that the homes of plaintiffs are constructed inside the portion of the land of the public domain and that the land belongs to the State;
4. If it would be found by this Honorable Court that subject land where the homes of plaintiffs are located is part of the land covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. M-17248 in the name of defendants, to declare the said Certificate null and void because it is part of the land of public domain;
5. Declaring the judgment in the forcible entry case null and void for lack of jurisdiction and for being unreasonable;
6. Ordering defendants to pay plaintiffs P200,000.00 as moral damages, P100,000.00 as exemplary damages and P50,000.00 as attorney's fees;
7. Ordering defendants to pay the costs.

Plaintiffs pray for such reliefs and remedies just and equitable under the premises.

Cebu City, February 10, 1999.

OSORIO, CAMINADE, REQUINA,
RIZON AND ALMAGRO
Counsel for plaintiffs
Rm. 305, G. K. Chua Bldg.
Sanciano St., Cebu City

BY:

VANACLIETICAL CAMINADE
RFD No. 3385921, Cebu City,
Jan 21, 1999, BSP No. 478661,
Cebu City, January 22, 1999.

VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION

I, DANILO ACULAN, after having been duly sworn in accordance with law, depose and say:

That I am one of the plaintiffs in the foregoing complaint,

That my co-plaintiffs and I have caused the preparation thereof;

That all the allegations therein are true and correct of my own knowledge and belief;

That neither my co-plaintiffs nor I have commenced any action or filed any claim involving the same issues in any court, tribunal or quasi-judicial agency and, to the best of my knowledge, no such other action or claim is pending therein; that if I should learn thereafter that the same or similar action or claim has been filed or is pending, I shall report that fact within five days therefrom to this Honorable Court.

D - ACULAN
DANILO ACULAN

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 21 day of February, 1999
at Navotas, Metro Manila, Philippines, affiant exhibiting to me his CTC
No. 074103873 issued at Navotas, Manila on Jan. 19, 1999

Doc. No. 36
Page No. 84
Book No. 11
Series of 1999

[Signature]
ANGELITO M. CORREA
NOTARY PUBLIC
EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2000
RFD No. 2800400
P.O. BOX 111
NAVOTAS, METRO MANILA
TEL. 02-421-1115

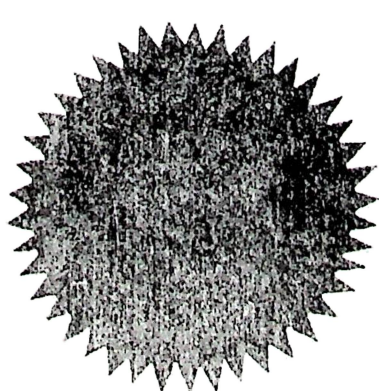
Transfer Certificate of Title

No. 111-111

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the MAYAGNAP, Metro Manila bounded and described as follows:

Part of Lot (Lot 2-A-9) of the subdivision plan (LRC) No. 22506, approved as a residential subdivision project, being a portion of Lot 2-A, Pal-9074, L.R.C. No. 123 (1931), situated in a subdivision, then of Mayagnap, Metro Manila, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the N^o. points 5 to 1 by Lot 2-A-10; and points 1 to 2 by Lot 2-A-10 (Alloy), both of the subdivision plan on the S^o. points 2 to 3, by Easement Right of Way beyond by Catalina Policarpio (Lot 20, Pal-9074); on the W^o. points 3 to 4 by Manila Bay; and on the E^o. points 4 to 5 by Rambla Riberol (Lot 1, 1-582) claimed by Francisco Pascual. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being H. 70 depts. 50' 00" (OVER) registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of SPANSE ANTON DELOS SANTOS and LYDIA ALJANDRINO; SPANSE JAMES ERIC ERIC & TRINIDAD C. ERIC ERIC; ERIC ERIC & ERIC ERIC & ERIC ERIC; ERIC ERIC & ERIC ERIC; ERIC ERIC & ERIC ERIC (OVER) as owner thereof in fee simple, subject to such of the encumbrances mentioned in Section 44 of the Property Registration Decree, as may be shown and to

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that said land was originally registered on the 10th day of JULY in the year nineteen hundred and 1931 in the 111-111 Registration Book of the Office of the Register of Deeds of MANILA Volume 111-111 page 111, as Original Certificate of Title No. 111-111 pursuant to Decree No. 111-111 issued in L. R. C. 111-111 Record No. 111-111 in the name of SPANSE ANTON DELOS SANTOS and LYDIA ALJANDRINO. This certificate is a transfer from SPANSE ANTON DELOS SANTOS and LYDIA ALJANDRINO Certificate of Title No. 111-111/T-111 which is cancelled by virtue hereof in so far as the above-described land is concerned.



Entered at the City of Calabocan
Philippines, on the 20th day of July
in the year nineteen hundred and 1931
at 11:30 a.m.

ATTEST:

SPANSE ANTON DELOS SANTOS and LYDIA ALJANDRINO
As Owners

FRANCIS CO. RIVERA
As Register of Deeds

*State the marital status, name of spouse if married, age if a minor, citizenship and is above of the registered owner. If the owner is a married woman, state also the citizenship of her husband. If the land is registered in the name of the conjugal partnership, state the citizenship of both spouses.

(Continuation of Technical Description)

to from point 11, bearing S, 29 deg. 00', 3.00 m. to point 12; thence S, 22 deg. 30', 4.00 m. to point 13; thence S, 22 deg. 30', 4.00 m. to point 14; thence S, 22 deg. 30', 4.00 m. to point 15; thence S, 22 deg. 30', 4.00 m. to the point of beginning, containing an area of 147.75 SQ. METERS (3,350) SQUARE METERS, more or less, all points referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground as follows: points 1 to 4 by Old 1/2", and the rest by P. 1/2", both more or less, bearing true; date of original survey, April 17 & 18, 1920, and that of the subdivision survey, executed by Juan T. Cabala, Geodetic Engineer on Jan. 2, 1924.

X-X-X-X

(Continuation of Reg. Owner)

& ELVIRA DELOS SANTOS, all of legal age, Filipino,

X-X-X-X-X-X-X

FRANCISCO G. ROMERO
Acting Register of Deeds

(Memorandum of Encumbrances continued on Page -B)
(Technical Description continued on Additional Sheet Page -)

SN No. 4843424

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Land Registration Authority
QUEZON CITY

WALLEY

REGISTRY OF DEEDS FOR THE MALAYON MINDANAO

Transfer Certificate of Title

No. B-17341

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the Navotas, Metro Manila
Philippines, bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 2-A-9 of the subdivision plan (LRC) Pad-325505, approved as a non-subdivision project, being a portion of Lot 2-A, Pad-9237, LRC Rec. No. No-40391), situated in the Poblacion, Mun. of Navotas, Metro Manila, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., points 5 to 1 by Lot 2-A-8; and points 1 to 2 by Lot 2-A-10 (Alley), both of the subdivision plans on the SE., points 2 to 3 by Easement Right of Way beyond by Catalina Policarpio (Lot 28, Pad-9224); On the SW., points 3 to 4 by Manila Bay; and on the NW., points 4 to 5 by Pasqual (Lot 1-I-852) claimed by Francisco Pasqual. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being R. 78 dag. 56' W. 568.91 m. from July No. 1 Navotas (OVR) in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in Manila.

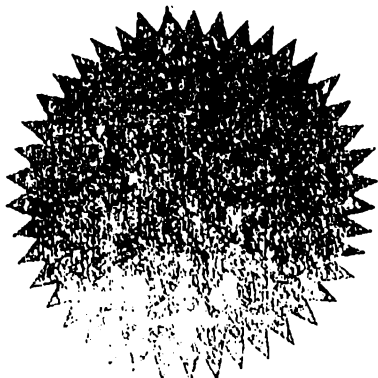
SPS. DABILLO ANG and ESTRELLITA S. ANG, both of legal age, Filipino, - - -

as owners thereof in fee simple, subject to such of the encumbrances mentioned in Section 44 of said Decree as may be subsisting, and to

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that said land was originally registered on the 22nd day of June, in the year nineteen hundred and two, in the Registration Book of the Office of the Register of Deeds of Rizal, Volume 2-28, page 195 as Original Certificate of Title No. 6465, pursuant to Decree No. 471930 issued in L. R. C. Record No. 40391 in the name of Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-137536/2-604 which is cancelled by virtue hereof in so far as the above-described land is concerned

Entered at Malabon, Metro Manila, Philippines, on the 15th day of August, in the year nineteen hundred and ninety seven at 1:20 P.M.

ATTEN



San Jose, Navotas, Metro Manila

(Owner's postal address)

JULY O. RIVERA
(Register of Deeds)

*State the civil status, name of spouse if married, age if a minor, citizenship and residence of the registered owner. If the owner is a married woman, state also the citizenship of her husband. If the land is registered in the name of the conjugal partnership, state the citizenship of both spouses.

OWNER'S DUPLICATION CERTIFICATE

MEMORANDUM OF ENCUMBRANCES

(When necessary use this page for the continuation of the technical description)

Entry No. (Cont. of techn. description)

Metro Manila, thence S. 29 deg. 09' E., 3.00 m. to point 2; thence S. 62 deg. 31' W., 49.47 m. to point 3; thence N. 32 deg. 44' W., 21.46 m. to point 4; thence N. 62 deg. 30' E., 0.30 m. to point 5; thence S. 30 deg. 37' E., 18.44 m. to the point of beginning; containing an area of ONE THOUSAND SIXTY EIGHT (1,068) SQUARE METERS, more or less. All points referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground as follows; points 3 to 4 by Old P.S. and the rest by P.S. cyl. conc. mens. 15x60 cm., bearings true; date of original survey, April 12 & 13, 1930 and that of the subdivision survey, executed by Juan G. Cabebe, Geodetic Engineer on Jan. 2, 1984.//////

X-X-X-X-X-X

Entry No. 205389/T-137536 - MORTGAGE - In favor of PHILIPPINE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BANK, Mortgagee, To guarantee the payment to the mortgagee of the sum of THREE MILLION PESOS (P3,000,000.00) subject to the terms and condition set forth in Doc. No. 190, Page 39, Book XVII, S. of 1987 of Not. Pub. for Calocozan, Genarona Jacinto. Date of instrument - Feb. 26, 1987 Date of inscription - Aug. 13, 1987 -- 11:00 a.m.

(SGD) FRANCISCO G. ROMERO Register of Deeds

Entry No. 212801/T-No. 5146 - AMENDMENT & CONSOLIDATION; In favor of Philippine COMMERCIAL INTERNATIONAL BANK, of previous existing mortgages by increasing the same and making them secure the full & prompt payment of the principal of FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P4,800,000.00), subject to the other terms and conditions set forth in Doc. No. 2078, Page No. 17, Book No. X, S. of 1988 of Not. Pub. for Calocozan City, Metro Manila, Julian B. San Juan, Jr., Date of the instrument - March 15, 1988 Date of the inscription - March 16, 1988 at 2:36 p.m.

(SGD) FRANCISCO G. ROMERO Register of Deeds

Entry No. 220621/T-No. 1208 - AMENDMENT & CONSOLIDATION; In favor of PHILIPPINE COMMERCIAL INTERNATIONAL BANK, of previous existing mortgages by increasing the same and making them secure the full & prompt payment of the principal amount of SEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P7,500,000.00) subject to other terms and conditions set forth in Doc. No. 445, Page No. 90, Book No. 11, S. of 1988 of Not. Pub. for Calocozan City, Benjamin A. Cynfia. Date of the instrument - Dec. 16, 1988 Date of the inscription - Dec. 16, 1988 at 2:20 p.m.

(SGD) FRANCISCO G. ROMERO Register of Deeds

The foregoing annotations have been copied from TCT No. T-137536/T-684.

Emily G. Revilla
EMILY G. REVILLA
Register of Deeds

(Memorandum of Encumbrances continued on Page Page)
(Technical Description continued on Additional Sheet Page)

The Role of Social Reform

The concept of social development has two dimensions: economic and social. One may not have economic growth without social reforms. Social reforms without economic growth will result in the 'economic pie' will not be divided equally among the beneficiaries.

Thus, Philippines 2000, the Ramos Administration blueprint for national economic development, seeks to balance global competitiveness and people empowerment. It calls for economic development that will be propelled and sustained not only through the promotion of efficiency in the marketplace, but more importantly, through the advancement of social equity in terms of asset reforms, just sharing of the benefits of growth, and active people participation in the political and economic mainstream.

For these measures to be effective, they have to be based on properly identified participants through a people-driven process of dialogues. The Government has thus set up two kinds of targets: (1) *social* - farmers, fisherfolks, indigenous cultural communities, urban poor, workers especially in the informal sector, and other disadvantaged groups - women, persons with disabilities, youth and disadvantaged students, elderly, and victims of disasters - that cut across all sectors, and (2) *geographical* - the country's 19 poorest provinces and poverty pockets.

KEY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Social reform is a continuing process that addresses the basic inequities in Filipino society through a systematic, unified and coordinated social reform package.
2. The Social Reform Agenda (SRA) will not be defined by Government alone, but in equal partnership with the different sectors through appropriate and meaningful consultations and participation in governance.
3. The SRA must address the disadvantaged sectors - minimum basic needs: health and nutrition, water and sanitation (for survival); income security, shelter, peace and order (for security); basic education and literacy, and participation in governance (for enabling needs).
4. Commitments from both Government and the private sector shall be delineated to ensure a workable implementation of the SRA.
5. A policy environment conducive to a sustainable SRA shall be pursued.

SITUATIONER / ISSUES OF THE SECTORS

The Ramos Administration is committed to address the primary concerns of the disadvantaged sectors of the society.

It has focused on specific disadvantaged sectors, bearing in mind the specific needs and characteristics of each sector:

1. **For Farmers and Landless Rural Workers:** limited rural infrastructures; uncertain land tenure; limited access to science and technology and limited access to markets.
2. **For the Fisherfolks:** destruction and overexploitation of their coastal resources and fishing grounds; encroachment into municipal waters by local and foreign commercial fishing vessels and reduction of freshwater fishing grounds by illegal infrastructure.
3. **For the Urban Poor:** the slow implementation or spotty surveillance of the Urban Dev't and Housing Act (UDHA), as well as the continuing basic injustices of...
4. **For the Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs):** the non-recognition of their ancestral domains; violations of their cultural integrity and lack of infrastructure and support services in education, justice and health.
5. **For Workers especially in the Informal Sector:** the low level of organization of the labor force; prevalence of irregular employment, exposure to exploitative terms and conditions of employment; lack of social security; lack of technology and access to markets.
6. **Other Disadvantaged Groups that cut across all sectors, include:**
 - a. Women, whose contributions to the economy have not been recognized and who are treated as second-class citizens.

- b Disadvantaged Students, Children and Community Youth, whose basic rights and welfare have always been neglected;
- c Persons With Disabilities, who are hindered with countless obstacles in joining the mainstream of society, such as discrimination in work and education, and the failure to implement the Accessibility Law;
- d The Elderly, and
- e Victims of Disasters and Calamities.

VISION FOR THE SECTORS

Specifically, for the:

1. Farmers and Landless Rural Workers - ownership, access to and control of tillable lands by the tillers, higher productivity, channels for productivity, and fair prices for produce;
2. Fisherfolks - empowerment and recognition, broader access to and control of aquatic resources, rational and sustainable management of fishery resources, wider availability of post-harvest facilities, attainment of sustainable development and participation in the planning and implementation thereof;
3. Urban Poor - broader access to and security in basic needs, particularly housing and land, and broader opportunities for increased income;
4. Indigenous Cultural Communities - recognition and protection of their ancestral domain rights, basic services, cultural integrity and full participation in the Philippine body politic;
5. Workers, Especially in the Informal Sector - absorption into the formal labor sector, protection by labor laws, access to programs and services for workers of the formal sector, participation in decisions affecting their interests, and organization into unions, cooperatives and other forms of associations;
6. Other Disadvantaged Groups that cut across all sectors - legal protection of women and children against all forms of violence (rape, pornography, sexual harassment and domestic abuse); accessibility, mainstreaming and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities; educational reform, and youth representation in both community and national development.

For these visions to become reality, the sectors must be granted access to quality basic services and to productive resources and economic opportunities. For the sectors to be able to choose and to sustain these visions, they must have strong grassroots institutions that can effectively participate in self-governance.

THE THREE-POINT AGENDA

Thus, the Social Reform Agenda consists of three main points:

1. **Access to Quality Basic Services: *The Imperative of Survival***
 These are reforms that are critical to enable the citizens to meet their basic human needs and to survive and live decent lives.
2. **Asset Reform and Sustainable Development of Productive Resources and Access to Economic Opportunities: *The Means to Work and Earn a Living***
 These are reforms that widen citizens' share of resources, both natural and man-made, from which they can earn a living or increase the fruits of their labor. Such reforms necessarily address existing inequities in the ownership, distribution, management and control over such resources.
3. **Institution-Building and Participation in Governance: *Toward Self-Governance***
 These are reforms that enable the citizens to effectively participate in the decision-making processes that affect their rights, interests, and their welfare. In effect, these are reforms that enhance the democratic processes.

Since the individual can not effectively act alone to promote or defend his own interests, but has to act in coordination with other like-minded citizens, strengthening the democratic processes, this also means strengthening the social organizations that represent such collective interests so that they can actively get involved in formulating the

SUBSTANTIVE INDICATORS

1. The marginalized sectors actively take the part in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies, programs and structures in government at all levels;
2. Structural problems, such as representation in the Government and control over productive resources, are addressed to bridge the gap between the rich and the marginalized sectors;
3. Benefits concretely and substantially improve and enhance the quality of life of the sectors;
4. Mechanisms are in place to institutionalize, monitor and sustain the benefit derived from these policies, programs and structures; and to protect and uphold the interests and rights of the marginalized sectors; and
5. Economic development that recognizes environmental protection and conservation.

II. The Social Reform Package

Most Government programs and services are already designed to help improve the lives of the Filipinos. Foremost among these are in the areas of health and sanitation, access to basic education and literacy programs, justice and welfare services. In the face of specific acute needs of the marginalized sectors of society, however, the Government has decided to highlight particular programs as TAGSIHPS.

B. The nine Social Reform Flagship Programs

The Sector-Specific Flagship Programs:

1. For FARMERS AND Landless Rural Workers, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT including but not limited to, the following --
 - Intensifying the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) by increasing funding for CARP;
 - Concentration of available resources on Key Production Areas (KPA) which are the geographical priority areas, using the Agrarian Reform Communities (ARCs) as the main conduits for implementation;
 - Increasing the budget for basic infrastructure, e.g., irrigation systems, harvest facilities, farm-to-market roads; and
 - Increasing technology input for improved productivity.
2. For the Fisherfolk, FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, including, but not limited to, the following --
 - Active lobbying for the immediate passage of the Comprehensive Fisheries Code, and the Magna Carta for the Fisherfolk;
 - Approval of the Executive Order on the formation of the Fisheries Resource Management Council (FRMC) at the local levels;
 - Establishment of specific implementing guidelines on the Local Government Code's provision to give preferential treatment to the Fisherfolk Sector the use of municipal fishing grounds;
 - Implementation of the Seven (7) Lakes Reform Program covering 10-12 percent total area to be used for fish culture; control of stock-density from 15-20 pieces per square meter, according to the carrying capacity of the lakes; implement anti-pollution control; and, strengthen the participation of the Fisherfolk in existing bodies in the Seven Lakes;
 - Review and conduct consultations on projects/programs in the CALABARZON reclamation areas regarding water conversion, demolitions, dislocations and tourism;
 - Strengthening of ongoing projects, specifically:
 - provision of post-harvest facilities and credit to fisherfolk cooperatives;
 - better enforcement of fisheries laws including the deputization of fisherfolk leaders as Pantay-Dagat/-Lawa/-Karagaan officers;

- provision of basic education services and literacy programs for the IBCCL.
For the Indigenous Cultural Communities, PROTECTION OF CULTURAL DOMAINS, including but not limited to, the following

- Certification of House Bill No. 595 as urgent;
- Review of all policy issuances pertaining to ICC concerns;
- Full and immediate implementation of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)'s Administrative Order No. 2, Series of 1993, in the priority areas for ICC (Bakidhan, Awasan d. Sul, Davao d. Sul, Mindoro Occidental and the Cordilleras);
- Articulating of political legal structures of government with ICC traditional socio-political structures; and
- Creation of appropriate mechanisms for an Integrated Area Development (IAD) program for priority ICC settlements.

4. For Workers Especially in the Informal Sector, WORKERS' WELFARE AND PROTECTION, including, but not limited to, the following -

- Enhancing institution-building and removing obstacles to effective union organizing;
- Stricter and improved enforcement of labor standards and social welfare legislation;
- Expansion of coverage and benefits in Social Security and other legislation;
- Improvement of workers' conditions in the informal sector;
- Certification as urgent of the passage of laws on workers' welfare and protection, specifically on the following:
 - Regulation of sub-contracting;
 - Limitations on the hiring of non-regulars (especially part-time, temporary workers); and
- Provision of access to employment and livelihood programs of the formal sector.

5. For the Urban Poor, SOCIALIZED HOUSING, including, but not limited to, the following -

- Faster implementation of the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA);
- Improvements in the Community Mortgage Program (CMP);
- Decentralization of socialized housing efforts;
- Provision of resettlement areas with basic services;
- Implementation of the Slum Improvement Program;
- Strengthening the Presidential Commission on Urban Poor; and
- Certification as urgent the passage of the Integrated Shelter Financing Act and the Manila Carta for the Urban Poor.

6. For members of other disadvantaged groups consisting of disadvantaged families, women, children youth, persons with disabilities, the elderly and victims of natural and man-made calamities, the COMPREHENSIVE INTEGRATED DELIVERY OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CIDSS), including but not limited to, the following -

- **Convergence of social welfare services** in the identified 19 provinces based on the **Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) approach**;
- **Intensified implementation of safety net measures** to the sectors such as SEA Kaunlaran, **Food Security, Parent Effectiveness, Responsible Parenthood, Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS), Day Care, Educational Assistance**;
- a. For disadvantaged children and youths, including disadvantaged students and out-of school youth, **Kabataan 2000**, including the following:
 - Program for Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances;
 - Child Placement and Protective Services;
 - Sulong Dunong Para sa Kabataan;
 - Integrated Human Resource Development Program for the Youth;
 - Enhancing the quality and relevance of education; and
 - Broadening the accessibility of education.
- b. For Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens, **Accessibility Program**:
 - Advocacy for the implementation of the Accessibility Law (BP No. 344);
 - Nationwide implementation of the Community-based Integrated Rehabilitation;

- Tulay 2000;
 - Advocacy for Local Government Units (LGUs) to allocate funds for PWD programs and for organizing self-help groups; and
 - Social mobilization of PWDs and their families and Senior Citizens
- c. For Women, an Integrated Health and Welfare Program
- Productivity Skills Capability-Building cum Livelihood;
 - Services for Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances;
 - Strengthen Responsible Parenthood information and service for Family Planning and Reproductive Health of LGUs;
 - Implementation of barangay-based Day Care centers, especially in urban areas, in support to working mothers and disadvantaged women;
 - Provision of a broad range of information and services for Responsible Parenthood, Family Planning and Reproductive Health;
 - Establishment of a mechanism for women to participate in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs that would promote their welfare and development, e.g., self-enrichment, Productivity Skills Capability Building cum Livelihood, population, personal and child care, functional literacy and community participation;
 - Set up Substitute Home for Women in Crises, Especially Difficult Circumstances that would provide temporary shelter to protect them from further harm/hazardous situations and provide appropriate services that would restore their normal psycho-social functioning; and
 - Certification of Congressional bills on anti-rape and sexual harassment in the workplace as urgent
- d. For Victims of Disasters and Calamities, Rehabilitation Programs –
- Capability-building and disaster preparedness;
 - Food-for-work schemes;
 - Basic services for restoration and rehabilitation; and
 - Core Shelter housing.

Cross-Sectoral Flagship Programs:

7. For all sectors, INSTITUTION-BUILDING AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE, including, but not limited to, the following –
- Strengthening of local government capabilities to undertake social reform programs;
 - In partnership with the NHO/PO community, LGUs, Leagues of Local Governments, Institute of Local Government Administration and the Cooperatives Development Authority, strengthen the Integrated Capability-Building Program (ICBP) adopted by Proclamation No. 284 and implemented by the Local Government Academy (LGA) by emphasizing capability and institution-building for People's Organizations (POs) and cooperatives;
 - Opening of Official Development Assistance (ODA) windows for the capacity-building of NGOs and POs;
 - Expansion of national government agency programs that provide financial assistance and incentives to cooperatives;
 - Encouragement of "joint ventures" and other "cooperative undertakings" between Government on the one hand and NGOs and POs on the other for the delivery of basic services, as mandated by the Local Government Code;
 - Provision of a package of local tax and other forms of incentives for the growth and establishment of community-based organizations in LGUs;
 - Implementation of the Local Government Code provisions on sectoral representation and on preferential option for the poor and marginalized sectors; and
 - Appointment of sectoral representatives to Congress and other policy-making bodies.
8. For all sectors, CREDIT, including, but not limited to, the following

- Launching a "Credit-for-the-Poor" program using a strategy of clientele segmentation by income brackets, with a socialized credit program using the Grameen Bank approach for the ultra-poor, an active and sustained cooperative formation and development program for the average poor, and ... program for the near poor;
- Establishing partnership between Government Financial Institutions (CFIs), e.g., the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), and cooperatives and other non-government organizations, with the LBP acting as the trustee bank for socialized credit programs and cooperatives, and NGOs as actual program implementers; and
- Designating specific roles for different players in the financial system, e.g., for the LBP to provide credit for small farmers and fisherfolk, commercial banks to mobilize financial resources, rural banks and thrift banks to lend to small and medium-scale entrepreneurs.

9. For all sectors, LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Creation of more opportunities to train individuals for more and better incomes;
- Strengthening of the community-based aspect of livelihood creation; and
- Making institutions responsive to the need for livelihood.

IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES

1. Energizing and reorienting the bureaucracy to effectively address the social reform concerns of the basic sectors;
2. Facilitating, developing and institutionalizing concrete mechanisms for basic sector, NGO/PO, Church and business sector participation, on both local and national levels, in the whole process of governance;
3. Synchronizing, systemizing and integrating all social reform policy and program initiatives of a Government to **optimize the use of limited resources and benefits**;
4. Mobilizing all possible internal and external resources to sustain the gains derived from these reforms; and
5. Local governments to assist in the implementation, institutionalization and localization of the **Social Reform Agenda**.