



## HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN THE PHILIPPINES



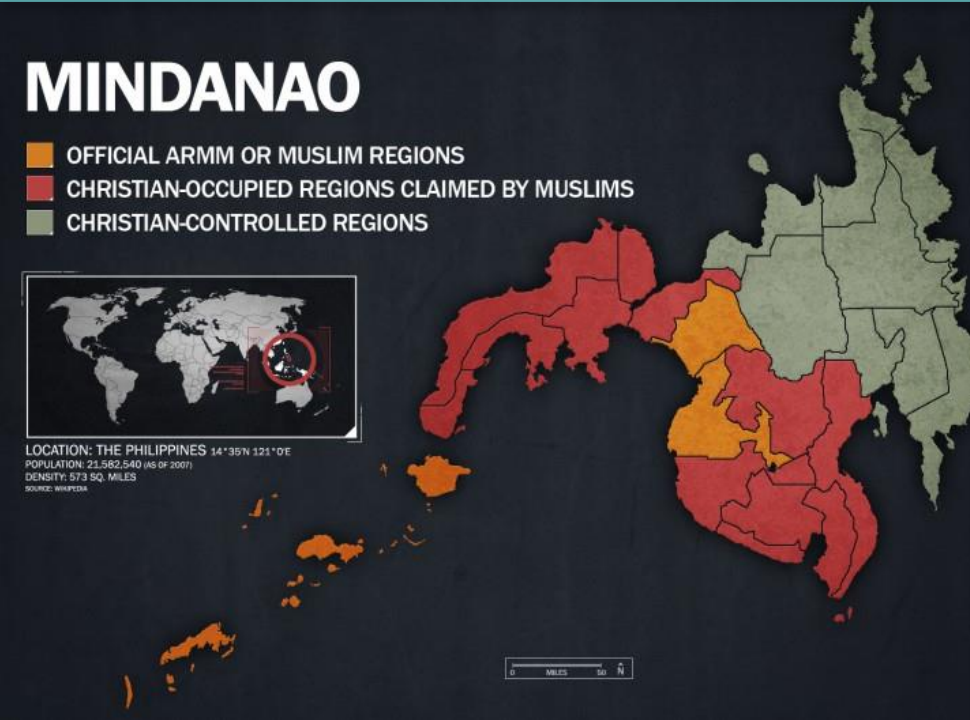




THE PHILIPPINES IS OVERWHELMINGLY  
CHRISTIAN, MOSTLY ROMAN CATHOLIC



THE PHILIPPINES IS ABOUT  
5% MUSLIM, MOSTLY IN  
MINDANAO BUT ALSO ALL  
OVER URBAN AREAS







INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (OVER 90 DIFFERENT GROUPS)  
ARE ONLY 2% OF 112 MILLION POPULATION



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS  
ACT PASSED IN 1997;  
PHILIPPINES IS ONLY  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN SIGNATORY





CHINESE (BOTH  
ETHNIC AND FILIPINO  
CHINESE) – OVERLAP  
WITH CHRISTIANS





PHILIPPINE NORMAL  
UNIVERSITY, MANILA.  
ESTABLISHED AS A  
TEACHER TRAINING  
NORMAL SCHOOL IN  
JANUARY 1901 BY THE  
U.S.












# MAJOR HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN PHILIPPINES

- Desaparecido incidents (enforced disappearances)
- Extra-judicial killings
- Torture by police and military
- Rights to ancestral domain and way of life of indigenous peoples
- Culture of Impunity among elite and armed forces (lack of convictions and even arrests for HR violations)







## HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS SOARED DURING THE FERDINAND MARCOS DICTATORSHIP, ELECTED PRES. IN 1965; DECLARED MARTIAL LAW 1972; REMOVED IN 1986

- In 1995 10,000 Filipinos won a U.S. class-suit against the Ferdinand Marcos estate. The charges were filed by victims or their surviving relatives for torture, execution and disappearances. Human rights groups placed the number of victims of extrajudicial killings under martial law at 1500 and over 800 abductions;
- Karapatan (a local human rights group's) records show 759 involuntarily disappeared (their bodies never found). Military historian Alfred McCoy in his book "Closer than Brothers: Manhood at the Philippine Military Academy" cites 3,257 extrajudicial killings, 35,000 torture victims, and 70,000 incarcerated during the Marcos years



# DOCUMENTED DESAPARECIDO INCIDENTS FROM 1970-2011

• President	Term of Office	No. Enforced Disappearances
• Ferdinand Marcos	1970-86	759
• Corazon Aquino	1986-95	821
• Fidel Ramos	1995-1998	39
• Joseph Estrada	1998-2001	26
• Gloria M. Arroyo	2001-2010	206

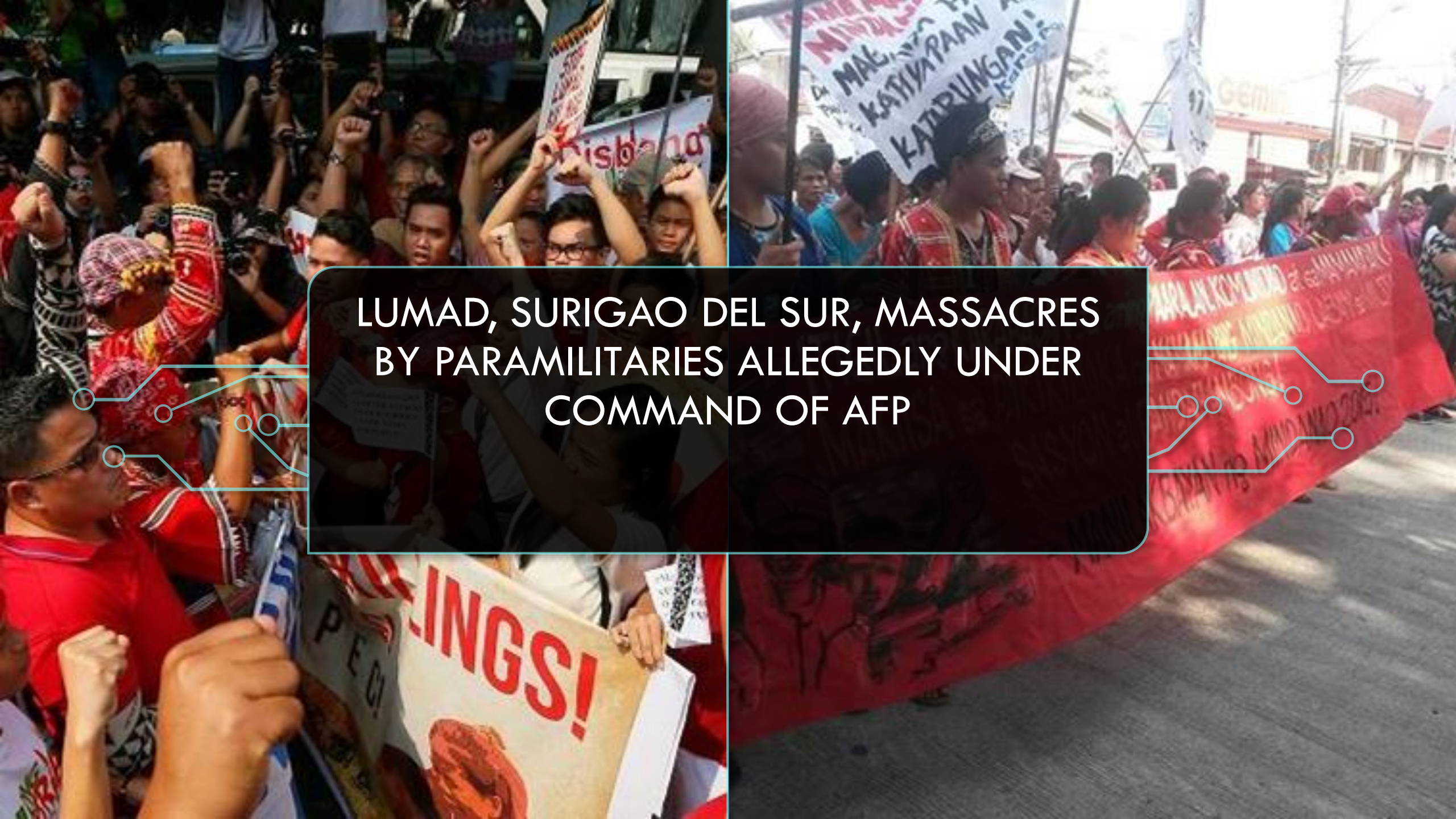


## KARAPATAN Data as of September 30, 2015

**TABLE 1: Violations of Civil & Political Rights  
under the Noynoy Aquino Government  
(July 2010 to September 2015)**

Violation	No. of victims
Extrajudicial Killing	294
Enforced Disappearance	28
Torture	172
Rape	6
Frustrated Extrajudicial Killing	318
Illegal Arrest without Detention	2,326
Illegal Arrest and Detention	911
Illegal Search and Seizure	551
Physical Assault and Injury	555
Demolition	21,516
Violation of Domicile	953
Destruction of Property	14,677
Divestment of Property	1,141
Forced Evacuation	63,824
Threat/Harassment/Intimidation	161,552
Indiscriminate Firing	12,454
Forced/Fake Surrender	303
Forced Labor/Involuntary Servitude	204
Use of Civilians in Police and/ or Military Operations as Guides and/or Shield	29,257
Use of Schools, Medical, Religious and Other Public Places for Military Purpose	182,389
Restriction or Violent Dispersal of Mass Actions, Public Assemblies and Gatherings	30,703





LUMAD, SURIGAO DEL SUR, MASSACRES  
BY PARAMILITARIES ALLEGEDLY UNDER  
COMMAND OF AFP





# ecidos











“WHO ARE THE DESAPARECIDOS? MOST ARE RURAL POOR PEASANTS TARGETED FOR ABDUCTION/LIQUIDATION BECAUSE THEY ARE SUSPECTED OF SYMPATHIZING WITH OR SUPPORTING THE UNDERGROUND REVOLUTION”

In urban areas, they are usually national-democrat activists and their supporters from all walks of life and who have been profiled as openly critical of state policies that are repressive and anti-poor.

The most recent trend in the last decade are killing human rights NGO workers, journalists/media people, environmentalists, & lawyers who work with human rights victims.





MAJOR GEN. JOVITO  
PALPARAN, A.J.A, 'THE  
BUTCHER' FOR SO MANY  
EJKS, ENFORCED  
DISAPPEARANCES &  
TORTURE, LATE 1970S-2010.  
NO PUNISHMENT ENACTED.



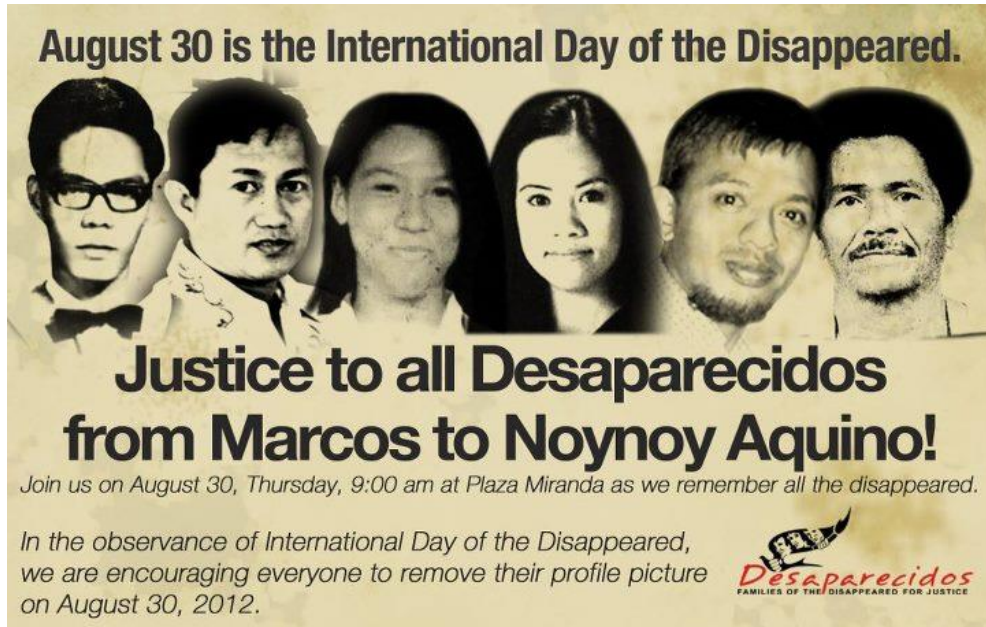


2011 CASE FILED AGAINST HIM BY FAMILIES OF KAREN EMPENO & SHERLYN CADAPAN, DESAPARECIDOS, U.P. STUDENTS. UNDER HOUSE ARREST BY MILITARY?





JONAS BURGOS, 2007, AGRICULTURIST WHO TAUGHT  
ORGANIC FARMING, FATHER WAS AN ICON OF FREE PRESS &  
MOTHER HEADED DESAPARECIDOS-PHILIPPINES



**JAMES BALAO, FOUNDER OF IP MOVEMENT  
IN CORDILLERA, DISAPPEARED 2008**





PHILIPPINES IS RATED BY INDEPENDENT NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS AS #2 DEADLIEST COUNTRIES TO WORK IN, WITH 72 MEDIA PEOPLE KILLED WITH IMPUNITY. MORE EVERYDAY.

# OLIVIERO IS THE 28<sup>TH</sup> JOURNALIST KILLED UNDER PRESIDENT AQUINO'S TERM, 2010-2016





Rank	Nation	Unsolved Cases	Population (in millions)	Calculation	Rating
1	Iraq	93	32	93/32	2.906
2	Somalia	11	9.3	11/9.3	1.183
3	Philippines	55	93.3	55/93.3	0.589
4	Sri Lanka	9	20.9	9/20.9	0.431
5	Colombia	8	46.3	8/46.3	0.173
6	Nepal	5	30	5/30	0.167
7	Afghanistan	5	34.4	5/34.4	0.145
8	Mexico	15	113.4	15/113.4	0.132
9	Russia	16	141.8	16/141.8	0.113
10	Pakistan	19	173.6	19/173.6	0.109
11	Brazil	5	194.9	5/194.9	0.026
12	India	6	1,170.9	6/1170.9	0.005

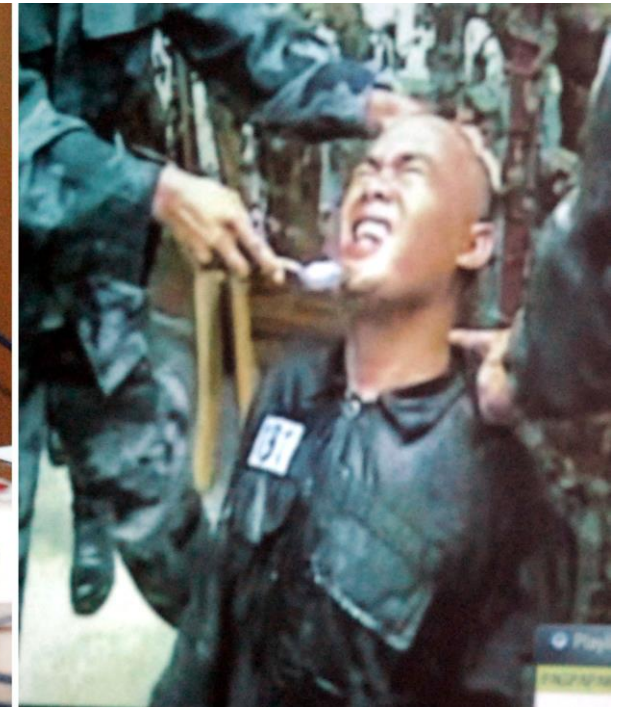
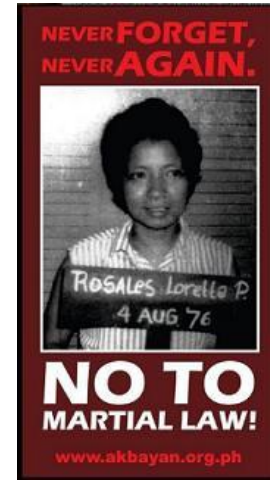
CULTURE OF IMPUNITY –  
NO ARRESTS; ALL  
UNSOLVED CASES.  
CARRY-OVER FROM  
MARTIAL LAW PERIOD.



MAY, 2014. AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL INDICTS  
PHILIPPINES FOR NOT HAVING  
CONVICTED ANYONE FOR  
TORTURE 5 YEARS AFTER  
PASSING ANTI-TORTURE ACT.



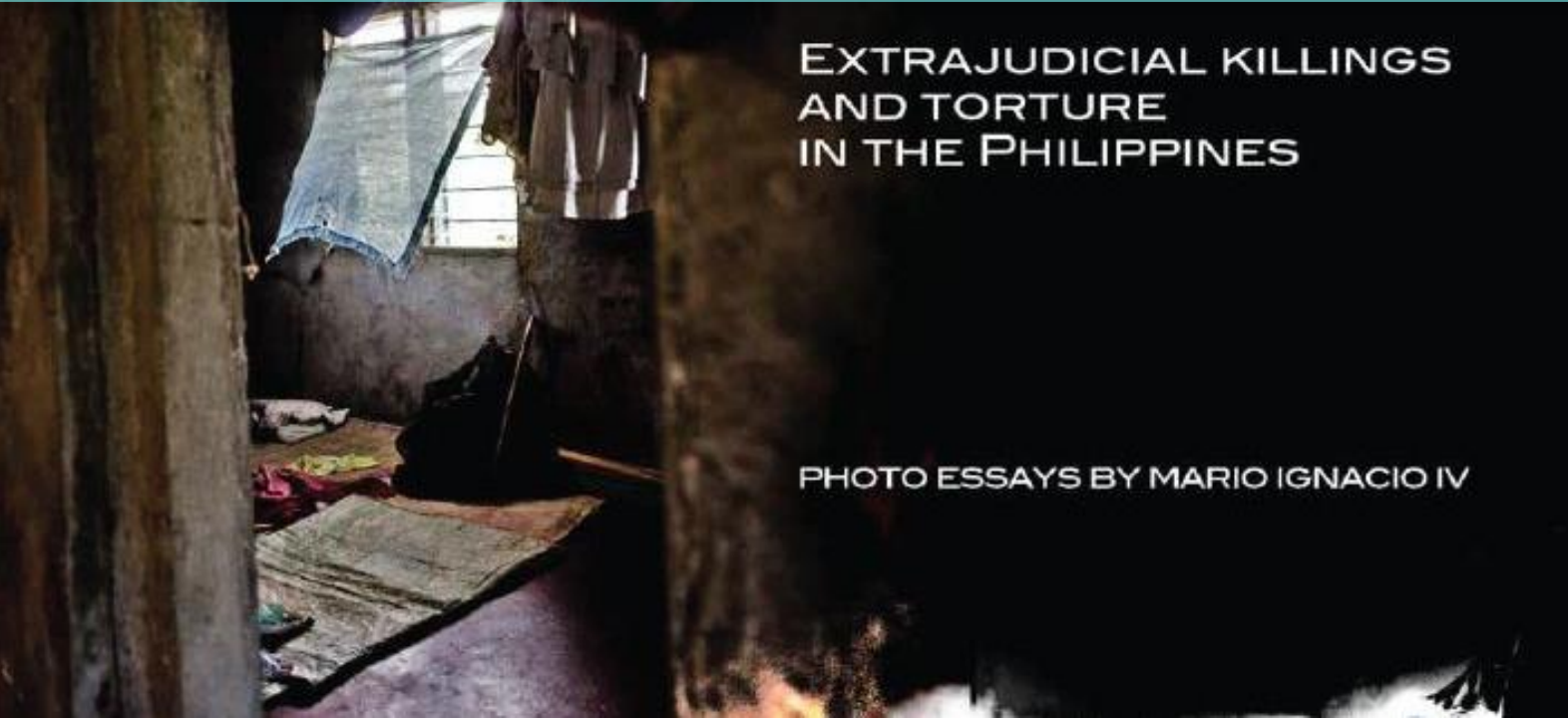
LORETTA ROSALES,  
CHAIR, COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS;  
TORTURED DURING  
MARTIAL LAW











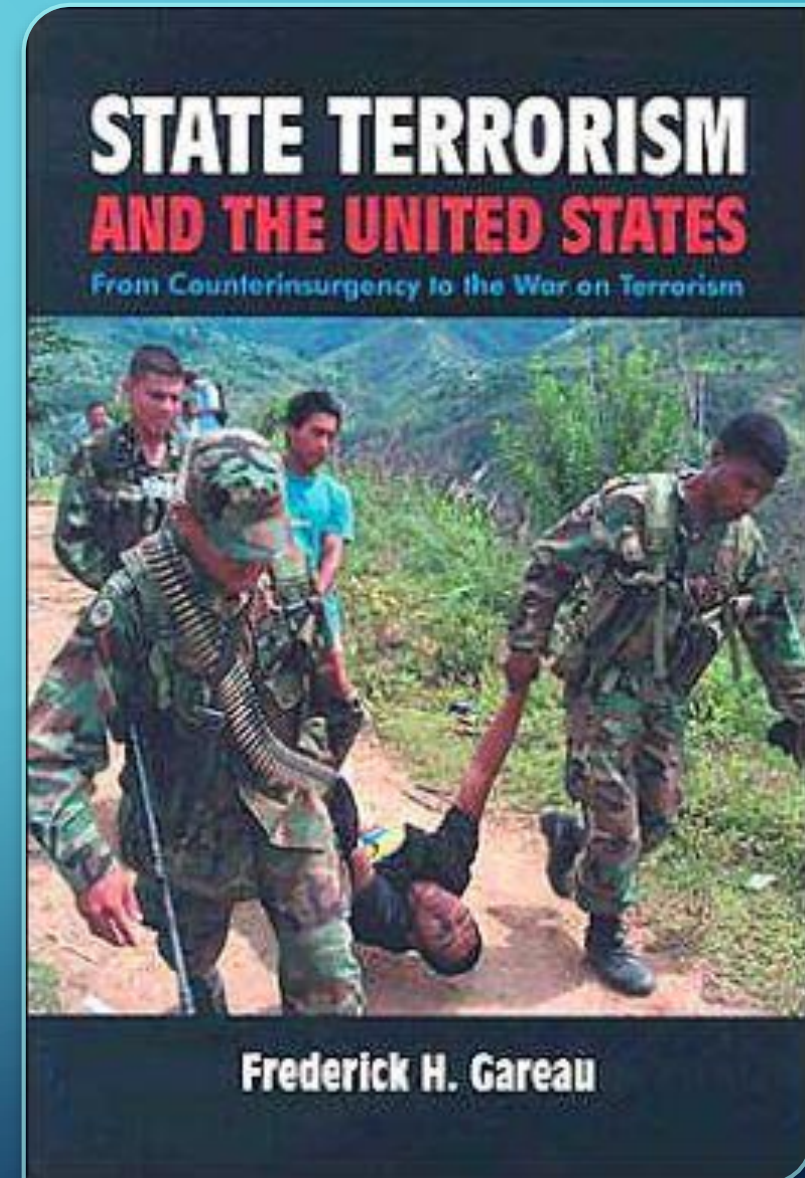
EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS  
AND TORTURE  
IN THE PHILIPPINES

PHOTO ESSAYS BY MARIO IGNACIO IV

# EXTRA- JUDICIAL KILLINGS

CONVENTIONAL DEFINITION OF EJK IS INADEQUATE IN THE PHILIPPINES, WHEREIN ARMED GROUPS HAVE THEIR OWN COURTS & CAN SENTENCE SOMEONE TO DEATH

- An **extrajudicial killing** is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process. Extrajudicial killings often target leading political, trade union, dissident, religious, and social figures and may be carried out by the government or other state authorities like the armed forces or police.







SUMMARY EXECUTIONS  
ARE ESPECIALLY  
COMMON IN MINDANAO.  
MOST RECENT CASE WAS  
A MANOBO MAYOR  
(DATU OTAZA) & HIS  
SON, KILLED BY NPA.



DUTERTE DEATH SQUAD  
IN DAVAO CITY,  
MINDANAO, ONE OF THE  
MOST DEVELOPED AREAS,  
ALLEGEDLY HUNDREDS  
KILLED AS EKJ.





SATUR OCAMPO AND TEDDY CASINO, WELL-  
KNOWN COMMUNISTS



CHITO GASCON, CHAIR OF COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS





AMINA RASUL,  
EXEC. DIRECTOR,  
COUNCIL FOR  
ISLAM AND  
DEMOCRACY



# PRINCESS JACEL KIRAM, SULTANATE OF SULU AND NORTH BORNEO



Washington, D.C., USA 2015 - International Peoples Tribunal

**THE FILIPINO PEOPLE, at the suit of ECUVOICE, KARAPATAN, Hustisya, DESAPARECIDOS, SELDA, BAYAN, KMU, KMP, GABRIELA, MIGRANTE, and KADAMAY, Complainants, For:**

**I. Gross and systematic violations of civil and political rights;**

**II. Gross and systematic violations of economic, social and cultural rights; and**

**III. Gross and systematic violations of the rights of the people to national selfdetermination and liberation**

**-versus-**

**PRESIDENT BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, REPUBLIC of the PHILIPPINES, and**

**the GOVERNMENT of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, represented by President BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA II, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, World Trade Organization, multinational corporations and foreign banks doing business in the Philippines.**

# Human Rights



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Reference to this Presentation is from the Philippines: Ethno-  
Religious diversity & human rights in a transitioning democracy:  
A Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad program of the U.S.  
Department of education. Co-Directors Sue Russell & Rhodalyne  
Crail (CSEAS, NIU) and Feliece Yeban (Philippine Normal  
University). Summer, 2015