

Information on the Igorot International Organization (IGO) Book

Title **Igorot by Heart**

Synopsis

The Igorot Global Organization (IGO) compiled keynote addresses and selections from eight conferences, called Igorot International Consultations, held from 1995 through 2008.

The essays on the Igorots - the mountain people of the Cordillera in northern Luzon, Philippines - cover land, people and culture. These accounts span 100 years of Igorot experiences, from the 1904 St. Louis Fair in St. Louis, Missouri, USA and 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (AYPE) in Seattle, Washington, USA, to the second- and third-generation Igorots presently residing in North America and Europe.

The author's biography provides context to their thoughts and enables the reader to experience a presence and understand why the IGO invited the speaker. The art work gives a perspective on the author's work.

In the first of Albert S. Bacdayan's essays, he said, "This paper is essentially a restatement of the message of the inaugural speech, with slight editorial modifications and elaborations for emphasis and clarity, a message that good education, strong identity, intact families and social connectedness collectively provide a potent key to a bright future for those in the Igorot diaspora."

Richard Stone B. Pooten, "My children were not born in the Mountain Province; they did not grow up surrounded by the old folks that I remember; they do not speak Kankana-ey, so how can I expect them to know about their Igorot culture. Therefore, I know it is my responsibility (as an Igorot parent) to try and teach them with every opportunity that is available."

Kate Chollipas Botengan, "The philosophical question 'Who are the Igorots?' demand not only an answer but an inward reflection by us all, both by those who claim ownership over the term and by those who would not have anything to do with it."

And in Albert S. Bacdayan's second essay, he said, "In the final analysis, the destiny of the Igorots in the Philippine nation-state, hinges on integration, not assimilation."

On the Igorots at the 1904 St. Louis Fair in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, Francisco F. Claver said, "What was not seen - though perhaps guessed at by the more astute - was something more important: their inner make-up, that is, their mental processes, their values, their beliefs, the non-visible aspects of culture that compose a people's world view and ethos and give them a spirit and identity all their own."

Minerva Chaloping-March, "The Cordillera is a highly mineralized region but the bottom line for opening up to mining projects is about the recipients of development."

Alexander Arsay Wandag, Sr., "To help our people become more relevant to prevailing needs and in the development process, let us help prepare them for the future."

