

**HISTORICAL DATA
OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BALER
SUB-PROVINCE OF AURORA
1952-1953**

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PREFACE

The historical data herein compiled based upon Memorandum No. 1934 s. 1952 have been gathered to supplement. It is believed the textbooks, manuals, course of studies and other reference looking of local materials. They were submitted by the chairman of every committee formulated in both poblacion and barrios. Due credits therefore are accorded the following:

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Mr. Roman Palispis | - | Chairman, Poblacion |
| All Central Teachers | - | Member |
| Mr. Pauliao Calderon | - | Chairman, Bo. Bacong |
| Ms. Felicidad Fita | - | Member |
| Ms. Amor Vilauar | - | Member |
| Ms. Adelaida Alberto | - | Member |
| Mr. Leoncio Querijero | - | Chairman, Bo. Calabuanan |
| Ms. Juliana Rivera | - | Member |
| Ms. Rodelia Bautista | - | Member |
| Ms. Lourdes Amado | - | Member |
| Mr. Menelio Rivera | - | Chairman, Bo. Dibut |
| Mr. Beato Laureles | - | Member |
| Mr. Ismael Bitong | - | Chairman, Bo. Dibut |
| | | No Member |
| Mr. Jose Glemao | - | Chairman, Bo. Reserva |
| Mr. Tiburcio Cabasco | - | Chairman, Bo. San Luis |
| Mrs. Lydia Gonzales | - | Member |
| Mrs. Josefina Laureles | - | Member |
| Mr. Angel Susada | - | Member |
| Ms. Nemecia Imperial | - | Member |
| Ms. Salud calderon | - | Member |
| Mr. Perfecto Abordo | - | Member |

In collecting the data, the above committee formulated, central and barrios, were directly responsible to make personal interviews with all folks and other persons who have authentic knowledge of facts and other events past and present. Especially to those persons who have on their possession documentary records of the past as well as those who gave authentic information, credit is hereby acknowledged. These resource persons are the following:

Mr. Gaudencio Trinidad
 Mr. Damian Amazona
 Mr. Anacleto Mijares
 Dr. Juan C. Angara
 Capt. Lino Angara
 Mr. Pedro A. Lopez

The persons who translated in the vernacular the old records of the late Alejandro Ferreras as those records are written in Spanish:

Mr. Pablo Marigmen
 Mr. Paciano Macatiag
 Coun. Pedro Novicio
 Mr. Gervacio Sumverde
 Mr. Felipe Bitong
 Mr. Bernardo Sindac
 Mr. Pedro Sindac
 Mr. Antonio Amazona
 Mr. Serafio Padua
 Mr. Sergio Gusilatar
 Mr. Lucio Molina, Supt. of the Non-Christian Tribe
 Vice Mayor Roman Macalintal
 Ex- Councilor Tomas Angara and Honorio Buencamino
 Present Councilor Cesario A. Pimentel of San Luis

Because of the proximity of the outline district of Baler, the customs, traditions and beliefs are practically similar. These will be noted in the different data gathered from poblacion and barrios.

The wholehearted cooperation of teachers was responsible in gathering all data required by spending their extra period hence the compilation were made a success. To those teachers and resource persons who is one way or another helped much in the collection of the data, this office wishes to acknowledge its gratitude.

And to the noted errors in the reports as submitted by every Charmin of which this office regrets very much, such commitment are reserve for deviation of future revision of this issue.

Signed: PEDRO A. SINDAC
In-Charge, Baler Elem. School

NOTED: MR. MELENCIO BAUTISTA
District Supervisor

HISTORY OF BALER

The official name of this town is **BALER**. This name had been used since the Spanish Regime in this community. The name of this town came from three (3) unexpected origins. First, it came from the Aeta's term "**IBALID**" meaning "**PINAGBALIKAN**" in Tagalog and "**RETURNED**" in English. For sometime, they returned in this place because they forgot something they left.

At the early part of the sovereignty of Spain in the Philippines, a Spanish Priest whose name was Father Valeriano was stationed in this town. He was very kind and won the love of all the people. So that long after his death, the people always talked about him. As years went by, the people shortened to **Father Valer**. After the Tidal Wave of December 27, 1735, the people who did not perished in the calamity decided to return to the site of the town before it was transferred near the sea. This is the town where it stands now. As a fitting remembrance to that priest for his kindness, the people who returned to this place called this site **VALER**. As time went by, because Filipinos hardly pronounced the letter **V** letter **V** was changed to letter **B** as in **BALER**.

Before the Spaniards discovered the Philippines, this community was already a prosperous village ruled by just and wise chief. When a party of Spanish soldiers discovered this prosperous village, the chieftain was known as **LAKAN BALID**. The soldiers were very much surprised to find a thriving village so they asked the Chieftain the name of the place. The ruler who although wise and justice people did not know Spanish so he misinterpreted the question and thought the Spanish soldiers wanted to know his name so he answered Lakan Balid. But as the soldiers found it hard to pronounce the letter D, they pronounced it as LAKAN BALER. So that after many repetitions the name Baler became so impressive that even the people adopted it. From that time on, this small town was called **BALER**.

HOW STREETS WERE NAMED

The people of Baler were the families of Bitong, Lumasac, Angara and Carrasco. To honor and remember these early pioneers, streets were named after them. The other streets were named after our great men and heroes as Gomez, Burgos, Zamora, Rizal, Mabini and Bonifacio. Two streets were named after American officials Governor Taft and General Vanholtz while one was named after the town Patron St. Louis. Very lately, the Quezon Avenue and Aurora Street were adopted to honor the memory of the greatest son and daughter of this town.

HOW THE COMMUNITY HAPPENED TO BE IN THIS PARTICULAR PLACE

The original town of Baler was first place about two (2) kilometers in land but Moro piracy and depredation compelled the people to transfer the town to Sabang near the mouth of the river so that when the Moor pirates came, the people could see them and would have the time to plea to the mountain.

On December 27, 1735, the Feast Day of St. John, the people were very happy. In the midst of their happiness, a big tidal wave struck down the town and when this proceeded to sea, it carried almost everything from land. Few inhabitants, the survivors escaped from the catastrophe by swimming to the mountain and others who were quite far in land leave to toll the tail of the foe of that unhappy day. Among those who survive were that of the Bitongs, Lumasacs, Angaras and Bihisas who decided to leave the site by the sea which they named "**KINAGUNASAN**" meaning **devastated** and moved to the site of Baler.

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND ITS HISTORY

- 1609 - The town of Baler was founded
- 1735 - Tidal wave washed away and destroyed the town of Baler which was first situated along the beach in Baler named KINAGUNASAN.
- 1737 - Barangay forms of government was established by Franciscan Priest
- Sept. 20 to Oct. 3, 1897 - Blood Compact of the Katipuneros at Sitio Dikaloyongan
- Oct. 4, 1897 - The Katipuneros attacked the headquarter of the Spanish soldiers Resulting in the death of eleven (11) Katipuneros.
- Oct. 7-10, 1897 - Establishment of the Real at Dikaloyongan
- Dec. 1897 - Hon. Pedro Paterno visited the Real
- June 27, 1898 - Beginning of besiege by the insurgents of the Spanish garrison Composing of four (4) officers and fifty (50) enlisted men. Spaniards entrenched themselves inside the church.
- 1898 – 1901 - Baler was under the Revolutionary Government
- Jan. 20, 1898 - Commandant Atanacio Salvador came to Baler with a peace Order signed by the Capt. Spanish General and Gen. Aguinaldo
- April 1899 - Lt. Guilmore and his rescue party who came to help the besiege Spanish officers and men were captured by the insurgents
- Nov. 1, 1901 - Establishment of the Municipal government of the American Government
- 1903 - Civil Government was established by Gen. Vanholtz
- Aug. 17, 1951 - Inauguration of the new political sub-division of the sub-province of Aurora and at the same time making the town of Baler as the sit of the sub-province.

The new sub-province is composed of the Municipalities of Baler, Casiguran, Maria Aurora and Dipaculao.

GREAT LEADERS WHO GUIDED THE LIFE AND PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY

1. Miguel Hertazuela
2. Lucio Quezon
3. Luis Lumasac
4. Eufrazio Bitong
5. Felix Gonzales
6. Aurelio Catipon
7. Isidro Angara
8. Santos Lumasac
9. Julian España
10. Severo Gallegos
11. Osmundo dela Torre
12. Sevira Palispis
13. Alejandro Ferreras
14. Ceferania Belen
15. Damian Amazona
16. Lino Angara
17. Cipriano Valenzuela
18. Teodoro Ranillo
19. Manuel L. Gonzales
20. Manuel L. Quezon
21. Aurora Aragon Quezon
22. Anacleto Mijares
23. Dr. Juan C. Angara

HISTORICAL AND INTERESTING PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY

1. The Quezon Memorial Park
2. The Birthspot of the Pres. Manuel I. Quezon
3. The Roman Catholic Church
4. Kinagunasan
5. Samento or the Recreational Spot of Baler
6. Binilwag
7. The House of Mrs. Quezon at Binilwag
8. The Cave of St. Isabel in Castillo
9. The room of Baler Elem. School Building No. 2 were the Japanese soldiers were tortured and killed by civilian and guerillas
10. Disalet River which is the coolest water in baler as clear as crystal all the time and never become muddy even after the heaviest rain
11. The Pier at Samento, more than 200 meters from the seashore to the bay

PRESENT MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS OF BALER

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Mr. David T. Valenzuela | - | Municipal Mayor |
| Mr. Roman Macalintal | - | Vice Mayor |
| Mr. Agustin G. Alvarez | - | Municipal Treasurer |
| Mr. Herminio Trinidad | - | Municipal Secretary |
| Mr. Cesario a. Pimentel | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Pedro B. de Leon | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Clara A. Zubia | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Tomas Bitong | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Pablo G. Bitong | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Martin S. Palmero | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Pedro B. Novicio | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Rogelio Valenzuela | - | Councilor |
| Mr. Elpidio dela Torre | - | Councilor |

IMPORTANT FACTS, INCIDENTS AND EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE

A. DURING THE SPANISH OCCUPATION

Practically, all inhabitants of this community became Catholic. Good moral character were maintained as to customs and traditions. About the end of the Spanish time in this town, Dikaloyongan became the center for refugees.

B. DURING THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION TO WORLD WAR II

New ways of life were instilled in the heart of the people of Baler. More freedom and ways of life were acquired by the inhabitants. Civil Government was established. Public school teachers were organized.

B. DURING AND AFTER WOPRLD WAR II

On December 21, 1941, Baler was bombed by Japanese planes. About February or March 1942, thousands of Japanese reign or stayed in different parts of Baler. They build trenches and foxholes wherever they stayed. They made Baler Elementary School Building as their garrison. People who evacuated were ordered to stay in the poblacion. The then mayor of this locality, Dr. Juan C. Angara requested the civilians to campaign for more food production. And this could only be done by staying in the country or barrios.

During the Japanese stay here, they commanded men, carabaos and all they need to work for them in the construction of foxholes, trenches and supply them food by force. People survive by striving hard for their living. They suffered from little food and little clothing. These came the invincibly brought of guerillas in the great wilderness of Baler when they saw their countrymen suffering from the harsh rule of the Japanese. They know that the Japanese tortured and killed civilians. Time has come when the US Submarine Narwhal found its secret landing place in Dibut, a sitio in Baler. It became the gateway of supplying the Philippine guerillas with the war ammunitions from America. Guerillas became more and more brave as days went by, it was on September 23, 1944. On September 23 and 24 hundreds and thousands of planes flew over the town of Baler from east to west. They were the US planes. More hopes grew in the heart of the Filipinos. News heard that Mc Arthur made landing operation in Leyte. Dogfighter of planes were witnessed in the air above Baler in the latter days. The American and the Japanese. About the end of January 1945, the guerillas were in a position to seize in the Japanese garrison in Baler but on that

day, when US Plane raided the garrison, the guerillas took charge of the land operation. That early morning, the Japanese escape going northward. The guerillas occupied the town. Military government was organized led by guerilla First Lt. Filomeno Bihasa, Mr. Amando Guerrero was appointed Military Mayor. Captain Pedro B. Novicio took charge of the mapping-up operation, clearing the wilderness of Baler from the remaining scattered Japanese. Peace in Baler came little by little. Evacuees came to their homes in the poblacion for normal living. Classes in school were organized under the PCAU and latter transfer to church of the government. In the same year, Baler Institute was reopened. Managed by Mr. Paulino Espinosa. The following years, Mrs. Aragon Quezon brought Carmelite American Priest who took and improved the growth of Catholic Religion here. When they won the love of the people, Fr. Leon, one of the priests, founded the Mt. Carmel High School. There are now two leading high schools here, the Mt. Carmel and the Baler Institute.

DESTRUCTION OF LIVES, PROPERTIES AND INSTITUTIONS DURING WARS ESPECIALLY IN 1896 TO 1900 AND 1941 TO 1945

Of course more lives were lost during the Spanish time. Because of the attacked of the insurgents to the Spaniards and although it was hard struggle, it can be recorder in history a pride of this town for our local heroes met their success by capturing and

driving away the Spaniards from this town. _____ was merely developed because our people engage in trouble most of the time. During the Japanese time, there were casualties in Baler. However, the poblacion of Baler had never been a field of battle. None of such had been _____. No bloody encounter had been witnessed here. As people were ordered to go to countries, barrios or homestead. The result were that large tract of land were cultivated which were planted to rice, coconuts and many others. Today, the inhabitants of this place abundantly harvest fruits of their sacrifices. It is not _____ a mistake to make the Baler as the capital of the sub-province of Aurora because financially it can stand in her feet.

MEASURES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARDS REHABILITATION OF RECONSTRUCTION FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II

Relief from different government agencies were sent to Baler. There were either clothes or food supplies. The Philippine war Damaged Commission did a great help to the rehabilitation of the people of Baler. People began to repair or construct their homes and educate their children.

MYTHS, LEGENDS, BELIEFS AND SUPERSTITIONS AND OTHERS

During the early Spanish time, baler was located in Sabang. The castle as we see now in Castillo where the chapel is built, was the same castle built during the Spanish regime. During those days, Baler was not a safe place to live-in because of the frequent visit of the Moro pirates. They did not only get boys and girls but also valuable things of the people. There was a reign of terror. People suffered much of from the Moros. At last, when people have no more hope for a happy life, all in despair, St. Isabel and St. Louis, the patron of Baler, made miracles. These saints fought against the Moros. Every Moro that landed from the Vintah at Castillo at the mouth of the river suffered much from the

sun, only weapon of the saints which made them blind. Supernatural power invaded the Moros. From that time on, no more Moros came to rub the people. It said also by our old people that by the power of these two saints, even today, no fighting will ever been stayed from this town.

PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

1. Bend the tree while it is young.
2. If punishment reaches not the mind, it hardens the open doors.
3. Wine has drown more men than water.
4. God helps him that helps himself.
5. From savings come having.
6. Beware of little expenses, a small leak will seek a great ship.

7. He will always be a slave, who knows not to earn and save.
8. No man is born without falls, but he is best has the fewest.
9. A good servant makes a good master.
10. He, who serves well, need not fear to ask his wages.
11. Better a free bird than a captive king.
12. A pretty woman is a welcome guest.
13. Happy is the man that owes nothing.
14. Today's egg is better than tomorrow's hen.
15. Many bring their clothes to church rather than themselves.
16. No gains without pains.
17. No sweet without sweat.
18. The wise man got his wisdom from those who have nothing.
19. A boy's love is like water in a sieve.
20. A heart without love is like a violin without string.
21. Beautiful women without religion are like flowers without perfumes.
22. Women are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of man.

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE CULTURAL LIFE OF THE BARRIO OF BACONG

1. PRESENT OFFICIAL NAME OF THE BARRIO - **BACONG**
2. POPULAR NAME:
 - a. Present - Bacong
 - b. Past - Bonotan
3. The present place was established in 1919. This place extends eastward west of the Pagsanjan Irrigation Canal. The boundary line of Suclayin and Bacong where the first settlement was made by the families of Animas, Angaras, Amazonas, both native of Baler in 1901. It was named Bacong after the name of **wild plants Bacong** which were growing everywhere. Now these plants were growing along the beach. From the first settlement going westward, the Bacong proper and extensive rice field can be seen.
4. NAME OF SITIOS:
 1. Bonotan
 2. Kakambingan
 3. Tadeo
 4. Mag-asawang Dao
 5. Balintawak
 6. Detumabo
 7. Dialatnan
 8. Gumapac
 9. Palokpok
 10. Landing
5. ORIGINAL FAMILIES
 1. Gregorio Amazona
 2. Paciano Leander
 3. Severo Pimentel
 4. Salvador Angara
 5. Juan Almonte
 6. Teodoro Morillo
 7. Gerardo Caballes
 8. Custodio Nortez
 9. Pablo Marigmen
 10. Andres Marigmen
 11. Pedro Marigmen
 12. Antonino delos Santos
 13. Luis Pimentel
 14. Hipolito Macatiag
 15. Fausto Espinosa
 16. Jose Querijero
 17. Ladislao Angara
 18. Pedro Santualla
 19. Fortunato Esureña

20. Pedro Poblete
21. Ladislao Aragon

6. THE EARLIEST BARRIO LIEUTENANT

1. Luis Pimentel
2. Emilio Gonzales
3. Ladislao Aragon
4. Fortunato Esureña
5. Severo Pimentel
6. Pedro Poblete
7. Lacadio Tolentino
8. Gregorio Morillo

7. HISTORY OF THE PLACE, HOW POPULATED

In the early days, most of the people in Bacong live on a piece of land situated along the Suclayin River. When the Philippine Legislature passed the Homestead Law in 1910, the people got homestead further west of the sitio of Bonotan almost five (5) kilometers from the first settlement. The homesteaders began clearing the land. Later they established a barrio site. The proposed barrio site is a part of the parcel of land donated by Paciano Macatiag and Fausto Espinosa in the southeast, Antonio delos Santos in the north and Marciano Avenilla in the southwest. The people began to built their houses in the barrio site. It was in 1922, when the first temporary schoolhouse was built in Centro in response to the need and request of the people. Upon the suggestion of Mr. Angel D. Paro, Supervising Teacher of Baler, the school site be located in the heart of the barrio site near a spring. Simultaneously, the schoolhouse was transferred to the permanent place. A two-hectare school site and a PTA was organized thereafter. Mr. Nicolas F. Angara was the first teacher. President Quirino issued an Executive Order appropriating several million pesos for the opening of all classes that were not opened last July 1, 1952 due to the lack of school fund. On his desire to give his must education to the people, the Bacong barrio school open a Grade 6 extension class on November 27, 1952. Now Bacong has a complete elementary school with an enrollment of 176 pupils with four teachers.

The construction of government road traversing the barrio of Bacong and connecting the barrio of Calabuanan and the town of Maria Aurora will make this barrio one of the most progressive barrios of the sub-province of Aurora.

8. IMPORTANT FACTS, INCIDENTS OR EVENTS THAT TOOK PART

1. DURING REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD - no record
2. DURING WORLD WAR II
 - a. The following were tortured and killed by the Japanese:
 1. Basilio Marigmen
 2. Tranquilino Friginal
 3. Salvador Paruhinog

9. TRADITIONS

1. Serenading
2. Birthday Celebration
3. Picnics
4. Moro-Moro and drama
5. Dances and Ball
6. Tapusan
7. Celebration of Barrio Fiesta
8. Services rendered by the young man before marriage

9. SUPERTITIONS BELIEFS

1. Kulam or Witchcraft
2. Aswang or Witch
3. Bonog
4. Flagellant on Good Friday

10. AMUSEMENTS

1. Ball and Dances

2. Serenading
3. Picnics
4. Sipa and the different kinds of School Games

11. WATCH OR CLOCK

1. Kalaw
2. Sun
3. Shadow

12. OTHER FOLKTALES - None

13. INFORMATIONS, BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS

14. NAME OF FILIPINO AUTHORS

15. PRESENT AND PAST COUNCILORS OF BACONG

1. Cipriano Valenzuela
2. Diego Gomez
3. Andres Aragon
4. Felix Sindac
5. Clemente Mejico
6. Exequiel Undan
7. Tomas Angara
8. Pedro Poblete
9. Pedro B. Novicio – Present

16. IMPORTANT FACTS, INCIDENTS OR EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------|
| 1. DURING THE SPANISH OCCUPATION | - | NONE |
| 2. DURING AMERICAN OCCUPATION | - | NONE |
| 3. DURING JAPANESE OCCUPATION | | |

Strong guerilla forces were organized by Capt. Pedro B. Novicio. Many able-body men joined the forces. It was on January 26, 1945 when this guerilla troupes ambushed Japanese army trucks bound for Bongabon. After a brief encounter, the Bacong guerillas retreated without casualties. Several Japanese soldiers were wounded. One of the army trucks was destroyed on the way and deserted by the enemies.

HISTORY OF THE BARRIO OF CALABUANAN

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. PRESENT NAME | - | CALABUANAN |
| 2. POPULAR NAME OF THE BARRIO | - | CALABUANAN |
| 3. DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT | - | No accurate record as to Barrio was organized |

4. ORIGINAL FAMILIES

- a. Bitong family
- b. Friginal Family
- c. Sindac Family
- d. Pimentel Family
- e. Silva Family

5. LIST OF BARRIO LIEUTENANTS FROM THE EARLIEST TIME

- a. Andres Bitong
- b. Felipe Bitong
- c. Tomas Seranno
- d. Simplicio Amatorio
- e. Teodorico Bitong
- f. Pedro Sindac

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 6. STORY OF THE OLD BARRIO | - | No available information |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|

7. DATA ON HISTORICAL EVENT

Sometime in 1943, there was an encounter between the guerillas and the Japanese in the school of this barrio.

8. IMPORTANT FACTS AND INCIDENTS

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| A. DURING THE SPANISH TIME | - | No available information |
| B. DURING THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION TO WORLD WAR II | - | None |
| C. DURING AND AFTER WORLD WAR II | | |

The present site of the barrio had been the hideout of the guerillas. Sometime in 1943, the guerillas and the Japanese had an encounter in the old school site. Many of the Japanese soldiers were killed and some of the guerillas were wounded.

9. DESTRUCTION OF LIVES, PROPERTIES AND INSTITUTIONS DURING THE WARS ESPECIALLY IN 1896-1900 AND 1941- 1945

The Japanese soldiers burned the school buildings and tortured some of the civilians. A new school building 2-room was constructed by the American War Damaged Commission in April 1951.

10. TRADITIONS

To the newly married couple, both parents spread polish rice where the young couple will pass.

11. MYTHS, LEGENDS, BELIEFS AND INTERPRETATIONS OF SUPERSTITIONS

It is good to plant root crops during starry nights.

12. POPULAR SONGS, GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

- a. Pagparito Namin
- b. Sipa
- c. Catching wild Pigs and deer with net (Batig)

13. PUZZLES AND RIDDLES

- a. Mag-inang baka nanganak ng tag-isa.
- b. Nauna'y banal, sumusunod ay matakaw, nahuhuli'y maingay.

14. PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

- a. Ang lumalakad ng marahan matinik ma'y marahan.
- b. Ang maghasik ng hangin bagyo ang aanihin.
- c. Mapait ang magtiis ngunit ang bunga'y matamis.

15. METHOD OF MEASURING TIME

- a. By means of the sun
- b. By the sound of the bird – kalaw (Hornbill)

16. OTHER FOLKTALES

No available information

17. SITIOS COMPOSING THE PRESENT BARRIO

- a. Setan
- b. Panopla
- c. Parang
- d. Ambog
- e. Dimanagsag
- f. Bira

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL LIFE OF THE SITIO OF DITUMABO

1. PRESENT NAME OF THE SITIO - **DITUMABO**

2. POPULAR NAME - **DITUMABO**

3. PRESENT PLACE

The sitio is at the west side of Ditumabo River. It was founded in 1950. It is at the foot of Ditumabo Mountain. It is on a highest sloping ground and adjoining the Baler-Bongabon National Road. It is 14 kilometers from the poblacion.

4. ORIGINAL FAMILIES

1. Antonio Amazona
2. Mariano Amazona
3. Casimiro Morillo
4. Rufino Villareal
5. Juan Herminigildo

6. Emilio Gonzales
7. Delfin Pimentel
8. Serafio Padua

5. EARLIEST BARRIO LEIUTENANT - Antonio Amazona

6. HISTORY OF THE PLACE

In the year 1950, during the incumbency of Mr. Pedro Guerrero, then a Municipal Mayor, the idea of organizing the place into a regular community was realized. An area of land about four (4) hectares was occupied and lots and streets were live-out. Since then, people from adjoining sites of Diet, Daikyo, Dialatnan, Suguit and Tanag gradually moved to the present site. There are now twenty (20) residential.

7. HOMES AND BARRIO CHAPEL

There is also 2-room school building with a school population of more than a hundred pupils. Mr. Meneleo C. Rivera and Mr. Beato Laureles are the first teachers.

8. IMPORTANT FACTS AND INCIDENTS OR EVENTS

- a. Revolutionary Period - Unknown
- b. World War II
 - 1. Japanese imperial forces built ammunition dumps around the place
 - 2. An outpost of the Japanese forces of the rear guards command

9. TRADITIONS

- a. Serenading
- b. Dances under a Ramada
- c. Picnics
- d. Birthday Celebration

10. SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEFS

- a. Kulam
- b. Aswang
- c. Bonog

11. AMUSEMENTS

- a. Picnics
- b. Harana
- c. Dances

12. WATCH OR CLOCK

- a. Telling time by the sound of the bird- kalaw
- b. Telling time by the shadow

13. FOLKTALES

A. DITUMABO- The Hunted Mountain

This often called by the populace of the locality that during a very bright day penetrating the jungle of the foot of the mountain, one will experience a very unusual occurrence. An abrupt change of weather accompanied by heavy rains, thick clouds and thunder seen upon reaching the high altitude. Some uncommon wild animals like white chicken, big snake and hoarded goats appear. These make the venture hazard.

B. DITUMABO WATERFALLS

Fishermen of the community make it an expression when they're fishing " Beware of the big eel". A human-size fish appear and mate one under the clear water whenever he dive-in. He says any fish swimming toward the waterfalls dip. These make them frightened to venture to catch the fish in the waterfalls.

14. INFORMATION BOOKS, DOCUMENTS

- No record

15. NAME OF FILIPINO AUTHOR

- None

16. PRESENT COUNCILORS

- a. Pedro Novicio
- b. Eugenio Valenzuela

17. FACTS AND INCIDENTS

- a. SPANISH OCCUPATION - None
- b. AMERICAN OCCUPATION - None

c. JAPANESE OCCUPATION

The place was made a target of the American Air Force s because of the ammunition dump made by the Japanese Forces. This is authenticated by the empty bombshells found around the vicinity.

HISTORY AND CULTURAL LIFE OF THE BARRIO OF DIBUT

In the southern part of the town of Baler lies a barrio of the non-Christian tribe known as **DIBUT**. Its name was derived from “**Di**” which mean “**in**” and “**Abut**” which mean “**hole**”. The combination of these two words “**DIBUT**” made originated because if you are out of sea, you cannot see the cave as if it were just a hole between two mountains. Dikapinisan, Dimanayat and Dikapanikihan are part of its jurisdiction. The establishment of this barrio was unknown for it has no available records. Original families were unknown too for the same reason. The list of officials from the earliest time of Mr. Teodorico Molina, their governor to date are Malitog, Isidro, Santos, Talio, Baludong, Ayano, Banguwag, Surab, Demo and Elionam, the present president.

On the early time of Dibut, the story runs this way. There was _____ by who saw a passage between two mountains. They thought it was the mouth of a river but it was not. When they are out at sea, they got a shore and they found out that Negritos were the inhabitants who housed in huts. It was a nice place for those non-Christians to live in. The place was covered by verdant forest and it was very near the seashore. Those Negritos are water-loving people so they stayed where there are fresh water that cause them not to build permanent houses. They built house with a roof made of rattan leaves and flooring made of top leaves. These huts are movable. The populace are all Negritos. It is composed of more or less 200 inhabitants. During the World War II, Dibut played an important role. It became the place where ammunitions and all kinds of guns were stored. It had been the place where submarines hide and brought all supplies of guerillas. The

submarine brought clothing and food supplies too. These people do not have educational institutions to educate them before for those years they do not want to be educated.

Since 1935 under the leadership of Governor Teodorico Molina, they began to elect their official of their own. Their governor was a Christian formerly appointed by the Secretary of Interior. Now they are governed by the Superintendent of non-Christian tribe.

Their most important industries are fishing and hunting. Burying the dead in any part of the place especially under their house was their traditional trait. They use to offer things and food on the burial places. The arrangement of marriage are arrange by the parents before they celebrated a wedding party. Only parents talked about the courtship of a young to a young lady. The people in the place believed in anitos. For example, they say that if you burn the cogon grass on the top of the Salasay Hill it will surely rain. This superstitions are unbelievable by the educated people. This history and the cultural life of the Barrio of Dibut is not yet well modified because no one from the barrio folk can tell the complete history of the place as the old folk transferred to Umiray.

HISTORY AND CULTURAL LIFE OF BARRIO RESERVA

Long time ago, Reserva was unknown to the people of Baler as it is now. In the early part of the 19th Century, an American Lieutenant Governor of the province of Nueva Ecija by the name of Mr. Thromhon and his comrade settled in this place and established a settlement farm school for non-Christian tribe. It is said that this place belong to the province of Nueva Ecija and this was then the reason why they open an institution in the locality. Believing that in this way it was easy for them to ban those wild people who needed to be _____ and educated.

At the middle of the 19th Century, the place was returned to the province of

Tayabas now Quezon. And it was then the time when new era of economic development took place. Late President Manuel L. Quezon of Baler that these big tract of land which has an aggregated area of about 200 hectares should be converted into a corporation. The owner of which were his entire family and all cousins. This means to say that the place was to be acquired exclusively by his entire clan alone and thus no future claimant should be allowed to enter the land whether it be by homestead, by sale, by lease or by corporation. Thus the term **RESERVA** was materialized and became known not only to the people of Baler but also by the people living in the barrio.

However, the idea was discontinued because the aim perhaps is contrary to his conscience besides his town mates might believe that he was exercising his dictatorial powers over his town mates and other people who are living then in Baler. Because of his present position as the Head of the Senate so the proposal was given-up.

Later on, the Bureau of Lands looked over the disposal of lands and sub-divided it into four hectare lots and declared it open to all qualified homesteaders to acquire such portion of land regardless of the place where they come from. Pertaining to the records to justify the earliest establishment of some family, pioneers of Reserva who were lived and cultivated some portion of the area, there was no definite records to explain its clearness nor a tale from some old men in the municipality of Baler who are still alive to enumerate the first governing officials of the locality. There is no one else who can tell the story of the same sites and barrios where once populated and later became extinct. Perhaps this was because the place during the earliest time was supposed to be the roaming place of the savage people whom they feared and believed to be all headhunters. This condition gave light to the ideas that Reserva for a long time was never looked upon as a worthwhile place to settle and live-in.

During the Spanish Occupation as it was said, the place was the refuge of those people who did not like to take allegiance to the Spanish crown. When war broke up

between the Spain and Philippines. Those refugees were the first one who joined the Katipunan. In 1941 and 1945, Reserva again become the bastion and meeting center of the Filipino guerillas who fought bravely in a battle against those Japanese army who were stationed in many parts of Baler. However, during those dark days, there was no casualties listed as far as recorded especially in the part of the Filipino soldiers. Reserva then became intact and unconquerable by the enemies. Only farm crops were destroyed because some of the products stored by the owners and those that are supposed to be ready for harvest were looted by those unscrupulous persons who get advantage of the situation. But the destruction of food supplies were at once recovered because the farm owners after liberation did not lose time to cultivate their respective farm so that after a few years of hard labor their harvest filed in volume that will exceed by product harvested during pre-war level.

With regards to their traditions, customs and parties in their domestic and social life, there were still a prevailing practice that during entertainment, some responsible old men in the community were chosen to leave the party into merry-making. They sometime chose a man or a woman to have the "pandanggo dance" in the party and sometime mass singing were conducted to make the affair more happily and lively. In the said party, all the people in the community were invited. Guests were serve in pork, lechon, wild pig meat, fish, rice and native wine or "basi" extracted from sugarcanes. In the party too, men were dressed-up in Barong Tagalog and wrist pants while women were patadyong, skirt and peña cimonos.

All parties in the community which were being held were witnessed by this old man and therefore they were considered to be the absolute contributors of happiness among all guests and without their presence the parties were but entirely monotonous.

Strange beliefs were still prevailing among the people of the barrio. They're contented that a child born at the time of which the moon was in its last quarter, such

child was totally weak among all mental capabilities. But when the child was born at the time when it was in full moon, such child will possess an extra ordinary talent in all academic works when actually attending school. But _____ was regarded as a mere work that anybody in the community could perform. But this duty is entirely at the hand of an old man who has the knowledge on the diction about the future of the child. This means to say that this man will choose the time of the day, the month when the child is to be baptized to ensure its success in life.

Courtship among young man and woman were conducted in such a way that only parents of both parties were the sole responsible persons of arranging the contract of marriage. The young woman seldom sees her lover during their supposed courtship yet she is contented to place herself as wife of her proposed husband. After marriage, man may gave some dowries in the form of goods and other things to the family of the young woman as a reward in bringing-up their daughter into womanhood.

When death comes to any member of the family in the community, the people gathered to the home where the dead is and the homage to the mourners as a token of condolence. Some of these people contributed money and other things as a help in the expenses of the family for the burial of their dead. Before the burial is performed, the dead person is being offered with various kind of food placed on the top of his head. These foods were supposed to be the food supply of his soul to the next world.

On Saint Day, these practices were still a common business among many families. They believed that the soul of the dead is still on the way to the next world and needed to be

given and their food supply were enable him to continue the journey without food exhaustion.

With regard to festival among the barrio people, seldom they give the practice due to the fact that preparation of all foods to be served to all the guests will be a great burden

for them to do. Many people did not like to burden themselves to exhaust their supposed savings. They considered the affair to be luxury and must be stopped for the sake of the community. Saw to it that without festivities to attend to and enjoy themselves once in a while will mean a total _____ -out of social progress among themselves. So, they did not all together discarded some festivities in the community and in some instances they even have festival in the barrio as many times during the year. In this festival, many people prepare good foods for their visitas. Dances, singing and other amusements were being held in their homes.

Drinking "basi", a native wine extracted from sugarcane, is offered also to their visitors. After a few hours, many became intoxicated. Persons were seen lying here and there. Vomiting all the foods they have eaten during the day. The festivity lasted for one to three days.

Punishment of various crimes can never escape among those wrong doers who violated the existing laws of this barrio. Those who committed robbery of large cattle were given six months punishment to serve as barrio cleaner. Those that have stolen chicken and other fowls were given light punishment as cleaning the yard of the Barrio Lieutenant. Those who inflicted slight or grave injuries to other persons will serve one month in jail and their work were but to help in the household of the Barrio Lieutenant and his subordinate officials. But those who committed adultery, bigamy and murder will serve many years in jail with heavy guards. These offenders were given legal foods consisted of course rice, vegetables with no fish and meat. They were served meal only two times a day.

There were still a very strong belief among the people of the barrio that when a man, woman or a child became sick, a witch or mangkukulam, aswang or amas, pigmea was the one responsible for this. People experienced this thing many times. They believed that the causes for sickness were really attributed to the inhuman practice of

these evil doer persons. Luckily, there were some men in the barrio who perfectly know how to cure the sickness simply by applying some herbs taken from the forest nearby. Origin of the world came upon their belief that their creator "God in Heaven" was the one responsible to have perfected the world they have live-in. Land were created and exposed to man or a place where to plant crops. The harvest of which served as the sources of food supply.

While mountains are the permanent dwelling place of those wild animals and birds of the air which were all subject as supplementary food of the people.

Caves were created according to the belief that they were the homes of those hermits and giants who once mingled with the common people of the barrio but left for inclusion in this cave for unknown reason. These hermits and giants as they believed were the kidnapers of persons especially those young ones for their food. Seas, lakes and rivers were also created for permanent homes of various kinds of fish and they were created as the supplementary food also of the people when poor harvest occurred. Numerous plants such as rice, corn, sugarcane, fruit trees that were abundantly found growing in the barrio were supposed to be the gift giving by the Almighty God to all barrio folk for their permanent sources of food supply.

Animals of various kind tribes abundantly in accordance with the environment where they were mostly found. There were domestic animals found in many homes in the barrio like carabaos, dogs, cats, hens, pigs and goats. In the wild forest which were surrounded the whole locality, uncountable number of some kinds of animals were found too. They were wild but nature keeps them increasing by thousands and can be roughly estimated to be even greater in number than those of the domestic animals owned by the people of the community. The sun, the moon and the stars which were the sources of light of all creatures on earth, they believed because of life generated from heavenly bodies upon them. They even worship them because they were the one responsible for the care

of young children and young plants to grow vigorously. Eclipse both of the sun and the moon was considered to be the sign of the approaching bad omen. During the progress of the eclipse, the people remain quiet in their homes. They are seemed peeping at the windows as they believed this bad omen is accompanied by deadly diseases that they did

not know who among themselves shall be stricken with such diseases. Their fear was so terrible that most of the people even forget their meals during the day and the night of eclipse.

TRADITIONAL SONGS OF BARRIO PEOPLE IN TAGALOG VERSES

1. Otoy ay matulog na
Ang nanay mo ay wala pa
At naroon sa laguarda
Namimitas ng Sampaga.
2. Ale Aleng namamangka
At kunin mo itong bata
Idala mo sa Maynila
Ipalit mo ng marhuya.
3. Ang ina mo ay wala pa
At naroon nagsisimba
Ikaw ay dadalhan niya
Ng magandang stampa.
4. Kami ngayon ay aalis na
At sa amin ay uuwi na
At ang madlang alaala
Sa iyo ay iiwan na.
5. Kaya irog matuwa ka
Bukas uli babalik pa
Pauwi na ang madalang disa
Asahang momg mahal kita.

POPULAR GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

1. Taguan or Hide and Seek
2. Serenading

POPULAR PROVERBS AND SAYINGS OF THE COMMUNITY

1. Kung saan ang hilig ng kahoy ay doon nabubuwal.
2. Walang umigi ang buhay na di muna naghirap.
3. Pag may saya, may lungkot.
4. Ang hirap ay may kapalit na kaginhawahan.
5. Pag may utang ay pihong magbabayad.
6. Walang utang na di pagbabayaran.
7. Ang buhay ng tao ay katulad ng gulong ng kariton, bukas ay nasa ibabaw at sa makalawa ay nasa ilalim.
8. Pag lumusong ay pihong aahon.
9. Mailap man daw ang matsing ay mahuhuli rin.
10. Ang magtanim ng mabuti ay mabuti rin ang aanihin.

PUZZLES AND RIDDLES

1. Pag araway mahaba, paggabi ay malapad.
2. Lakad lakad ng matulin, wala namang nararating.
3. Kung araw ay mahimbing, Kung gabi naman ay gising.
4. Tatlong magkakapatid, mapuputi ang dibdib.
5. Aso kong si bangilan, araw gabi'y umuungol.

METHODS OF TELLING TIME

1. Shadow or sun
2. Bird- Kalaw

Barrio Reserva is now getting well in its economic development. Almost all its area is in the hands of an active homeseekers so that a bright future of locality is held assure. From the present time, Reserva is under the jurisdiction of Vice Mayor of Baler, Mr. Roman Macalintal with his two barrio lieutenants name Gregorio Molina and Maximiano Valenzuela. Their work in the locality are all excellent. Time will not be long to wait for a servant sooner or later to be one of the best granary of the whole sub-province of Aurora for its area are now under competent homesteaders.

HISTORY AND THE CULTURAL LIFE OF BARRIO SAN LUIS

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| PRESENT OFFICIAL NAME OF THE BARRIO | - | SAN LUIS |
| POPULAR NAME: | | |
| Present | - | SAN LUIS |
| Past | - | INATIGAN |

The present place was established in 1923. This was extended part of the old San Luis called INATIGAN. San Luis was given to the present place because it was the first barrio in Baler in which was name after the town Patron Saint. The past name Inatigan

was given by the native during those days when they acquired the land for their living. Afterwards, these pieces of land were acquired by force of some persons who possessed higher categories than those natives so that they called this place "**INATIGAN**" meaning "**by force**".

NAME OF SITIOS

1. Dipagsanjan
2. Tabog
3. Dikabilayan
4. Disalet
5. Dimanawnaw
6. Diammot
7. Dikabanbana
8. Sentro
9. Cunayana
10. Tanag
11. Dibalo

12. Kalesetan
13. Dibut

ORIGINAL FAMILIES

1. Mariano Espinosa
2. Eulogio Espinosa
3. Feliciano Espinosa
4. Leon Bihasa

5. Leoncio Bihasa
6. Diego Bihasa
7. Braulio Bihasa
8. Bruno Bihasa
9. Arsenio Lumasac
10. Moises Sison
11. Alfredo Maliwanag

EARLIEST BARRIO LIEUTENANTS

1. Pastor Angara
2. Ruferto Bihasa
3. Angel Dukha
4. Clemente Friginal
5. Felix Sison

6. Benito Leander
7. Pedro Friginal
8. Casiano Friginal

HISTORY OF THE PLACE

The site of San Luis is about two kilometers on the eastern part of the place. The early name was Inatigan. It is about six kilometers from the poblacion of Baler. During the presidency of Mr. Pedro A. Lopez and Councilor Leoncio Bihasa in 1920, a school house was built in the old San Luis or Inatigan. A lot of one half hectare was borrowed from Councilor Leoncio Bihasa. The classes of Grades I and II were opened under the Supervising Teacher Mr. Angel D. Paro. The teacher assigned in this school was Mr. Pedro A. Sindac.

The old barrio of San Luis was no barrio site wherein to build their own houses. Fortunately the two homesteaders in the barrio M. Manuel Amazona and Mr. Mariano Espinosa donated some parts of their homesteads for the permanent barrio site of San Luis and the school site.

In 1922, the school building was built by all the people of the barrio. All the people from the old San Luis or Inatigan transferred to this barrio site of San Luis in the same year. They began to build their permanent home until at the present time. The houses were built among the core streets in this happy and prosperous barrio of San Luis. At present, San Luis has a complete elementary school with the school population of 365 pupils. The school site was increased to two hectares. This is one of the most progressive barrios in Baler.

IMPORTANT FACTS AND INCIDENTS OR EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE

- A. DURING REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD - NO RECORD
 B. DURING WORLD WAR II

The following civilians were tortured by the guerillas:

1. Teodora Ranillo
2. Bugawan
3. Capt. Vicente Villaluz

The following civilians were killed by the Japanese soldiers:

1. Manuel Inocencio
2. Inocentes Querijero

TRADITIONS

1. Serenading
3. Dances and Ball

3. Birthday Celebration
4. Picnics
5. Town Fiesta Celebration
6. Moro-Moro and Dances
7. Services rendered by the gentleman before marriage

SUPERSTITIONS BELIEFS

1. Kulam
2. Aswang
3. Bonog

AMUSEMENTS

1. Ball and Dances
2. Serenading
3. Picnics
4. Different kinds of Games

WATCH OR CLOCK

Kalaw or by the Shadow

OTHER FOLKTALES

None

INFORMATION BOOKS, DOCUMENTS

None

NAME OF FILIPINO AUTHOR

None

THE PRESENT AND PAST COUNCILORS OF SAN LUIS

1. Enrique Querijero
2. Mariano Lumasac
3. Tiburcio Morillo
4. Eulalio Querijero
5. Maximo Cortez
6. Leoncio Bihasa
7. Diego Gomez
8. Tomas Angara
9. Justo Ritual
10. Honorio Bihasa
11. Estanislao Buencamino
12. Francisco Marzan
13. Tomas Angara
14. Cesario Pimentel-Present

IMPORTANT FACTS, INCIDENTS OR EVENTS THAT TOOK PART

- A. DURING SPANISH OCCUPATION - NONE
- B. DURING AMERICAN OCCUPATION - NONE
- C. DURING JAPANESE OCCUPATION

Strong guerilla forces were organized by some of the people of San Luis. The UCAP protected the barrio from some invaders. Radio was erected in the old San Luis just about one and a half kilometer from the national road by Capt. Voltz, Capt. Villaluz, a well known guerilla died in the forest in Dibalo. An American Captain was shot at the Ditimabo by mistake of the guerillas who were seriously wounded and was finally recovered.

_____ ooOoo _____