



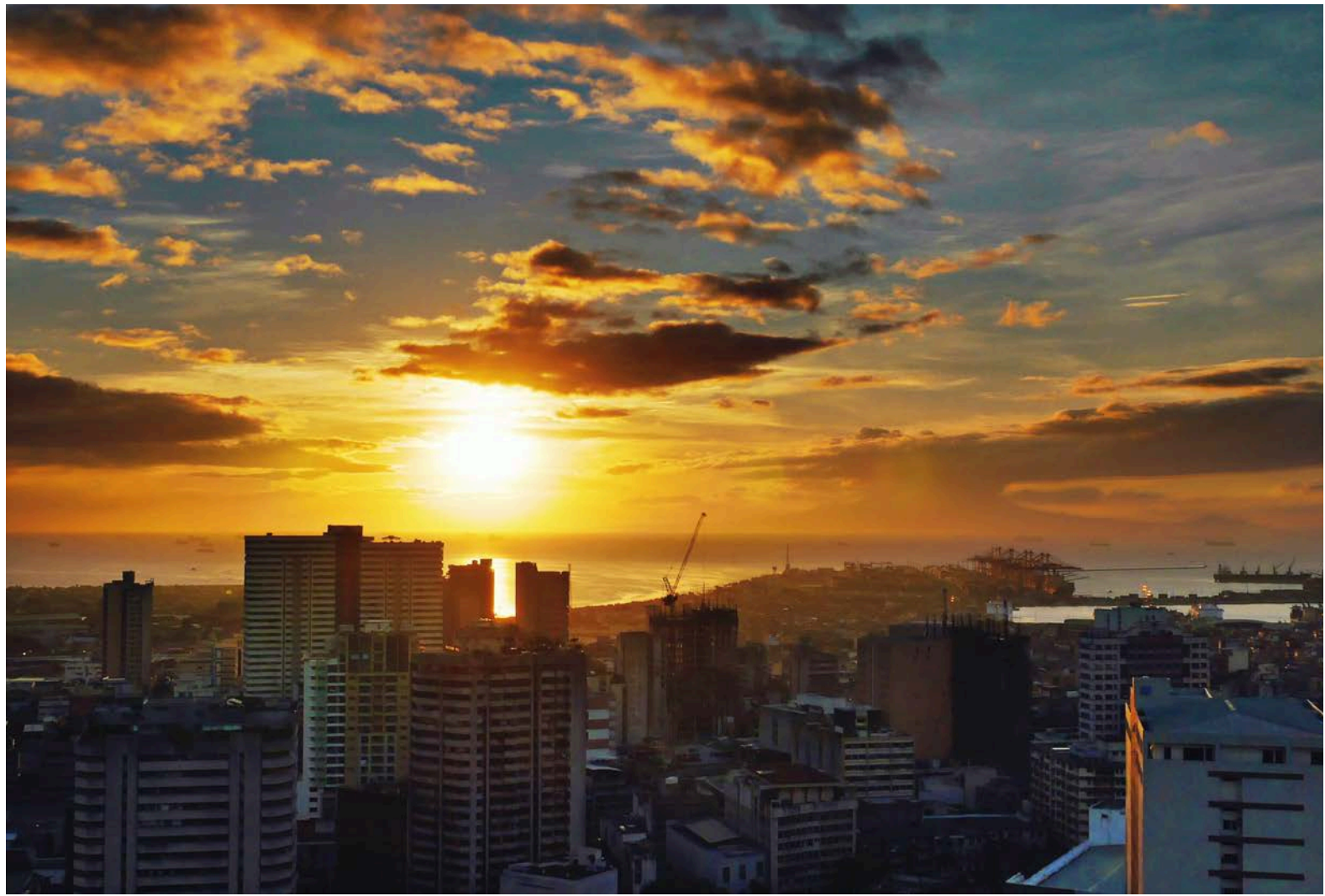
PHILIPPINES
Manila GLT Site Profile

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
GLOBAL LEARNING TERM

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NOTE: Information is subject to change at any time, including policies and costs. Please contact GLT Coordinator for more information.



INTRODUCTION TO MANILA

Manila's Urban Poor

http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dpu-projects/Global_Report/cities/manila.htm

The Philippines is one of the fastest urbanizing countries in the world. Its 1999 *urban* population was estimated at 38.6 million and is expected to increase by 61% by 2010. This growth is mainly occurring in informal squatter areas. In 2000, the population of Metro Manila, a megacity comprising 17 cities and municipalities, was 10.5 million. An estimated 35% of the urban population lives in slums lacking basic services.

Slums are defined as buildings or areas that are deteriorated, hazardous, unsanitary or lacking in standard conveniences. These are also defined as the squalid, cramped or unsanitary conditions under which people live, irrespective of the physical state of the building or area. Under such definitions, slum dwellers are identified as the urban poor: individuals or families residing in urban and urbanizable areas whose income or combined household income falls below the poverty threshold. They can broadly be classified by

construction type: temporary shelter made from salvaged materials, semi-permanent shelter, or permanent shelter.

There is an additional category—“professional squatters”—defined as individuals or groups who occupy lands without the owner’s consent and who have sufficient income for legitimate housing. The term also applies to those previously awarded lots or housing by the government, but who sold, leased or transferred the same and settled illegally in the same place or in another urban area as non-bona fide occupants and intruders on land for social housing. The term does not apply to individuals or groups who rent land and housing from “professional squatting syndicates.” Professional squatting syndicates are the informal and illegal organizations that covertly coordinate the activities of professional squatters.

Slums are now scattered over 526 communities in all cities and municipalities of Metro Manila, housing 2.6 million people on vacant private or public lands, usually along rivers, near garbage dumps, along railroad tracks, under bridges and beside industrial establishments. Slums alongside mansions in affluent residential areas are also not uncommon. Although there are relatively large slum communities, the settlement pattern of the Metro Manila urban poor is generally dispersed, located wherever there is space and opportunity. As of 2002, an alarming 55 percent of poor households in the country were classified as urban poor, with 1.4 million situated in informal settlements. This figure is expected to grow as a result of multiple factors, including natural growth, sustained urban migration by rural folk, unemployment, and inflation. A 2009 report by the Metro Manila Inter Agency Committee (MMIAC) estimates informal settlers in Metro Manila at 21 percent of the 2.6 million population.

According to the World Bank, conditions in Manila’s urban slums are worse than in the poorest rural areas of the country. In Metro Manila, 11% of informal settlers live along waterways or other dangerous areas, such as railroad tracks and dump sites. Although a comprehensive and annotated listing of slum communities in Manila is not available, what we do know is that Metro Manila consists of 12 cities, 5 municipalities and 1694 barangays, governed by their respective local government units (LGUs). The Local Government Code (LGC) mandates the LGUs to provide efficient and effective governance and to promote general welfare within their respective territorial jurisdictions. With increased decentralization, the participation of NGOs and people’s organizations (POs) have increased in the planning, implementation and monitoring of LGU-led projects. The LGC prescribes the formation of local development councils (LDCs) or special bodies to serve as venues for representing communities, through their organizations, to express their views on issues affecting them.



GENERAL INFORMATION

The Republic of the Philippines consists of an archipelago of 7,107 islands situated southeast of mainland Asia and separated from it by the South China Sea. The Philippines is separated from Taiwan on the north by the Bashi Channel (forming part of the Luzon Strait) and from Sabah, Malaysia (northern Borneo), on the southwest by the Balabac Strait (off Palawan) and the Sibutu Passage (off the Sulu Archipelago). Bordering seas include the Philippine Sea and the Pacific Ocean on the east, the Celebes Sea on the south, the Sulu Sea on the southwest, and the South China Sea on the west http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/The_Philippines.aspx. As of 2010, the Philippines has a population estimated at 93 million and growing very rapidly. From its long history of Western influence, 377 years by the Spaniards and 49 years by the Americans, its people have evolved as a unique blend of East and West in both appearance and culture (<http://wikitravel.org/en/Philippines>).

CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY

It is recommended that you spend the first two or three days in Manila getting acclimated to the time change and weather. The climate is tropical, with March to May (summer) being the hottest months. The rainy season starts in June and extends through October with strong typhoons possible. The coolest months are from November to February, with mid-January to end of February considered the best for cooler and dryer weather. Locations exposed directly to the Pacific Ocean have frequent rainfall all year.



DIET

Participating in the local food culture is a central aspect of daily life in the Philippines. You should be willing to try the local cuisine and share in your host family's mealtimes. Filipino cuisine reflects the blending of these wide and varied cultures. Filipinos eat a lot of vegetables and rice. Similarly, they also eat many types of seafood, saving meat for more special occasions. *Almusal* (breakfast) is the first meal of the day, and usually consists of leftovers from the previous evening's dinner, like garlic fried rice and cured meat. Ginger tea is usually drunk. *Ensamada* (fluffy, sugared, coiled buns), smoked fish, salted



duck eggs, fried eggs, Chinese ham, Spanish sausages, and fresh mangos are just some of the foods that might be eaten. For lunch, *mongo* (a stew of *munggo* —mung beans—and shrimp with olive oil and lime juice), *caldereta* (goat and potato stew), and *ensaladang balasens*, an eggplant salad, may be eaten. For dinner, Filipinos will often go to a simple *turo-turo* restaurant. This literally means "point point," which is how they select their food. They may choose *menudo* (hearty pork and chickpea stew), or *pansit* (noodle) dishes, such as *pansit mami* (noodles in broth). Read more: <http://www.foodbycountry.com/Kazakhstan-to-South-Africa/Philippines.html#ixzz42z0rtBsp>

MONEY

The official currency of the Philippines is the peso (Filipino: *peso*) which is divided up into 100 centavos (Filipino: *sentimo*). Coins available are in denominations of 1, 5, 10 and 25 centavos and 1 and 5 pesos. Notes come in 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000 pesos. There is a wide range of banks available in the Philippines from large international banks to smaller, rural ones. All banks are licensed by the Central Bank of the Philippines (*Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*). Most large banks have Internet and cellphone banking with many branches across the country.



ATMs are found in most major branches and are open 24 hours a day. One important thing to note is that they often run empty. Most local workers get paid twice a month and around these local payday the ATMs are often empty. It is best to get your money for the weekend before Friday or wait until after Monday morning. There are about three ATM networks in the Philippines, some only accept local bankcards while others take international cards. A tip would be to open a local bank account that uses a different network to your international card. That way you have another option when looking for an ATM that works. Most ATMs are also limited to P4,000 per withdrawal apart from some Bank of the Philippine Islands machines, which have limits of P10,000 or P20,000. The most commonly used cards are Maestro, Cirrus, MasterCard and less often, Visa.

<https://www.justlanded.com/english/Philippines/Philippines-Guide/Money/Money-in-the-Philippines> ***Be sure to call your bank and let them know you are ¹traveling out of country to the Philippines and any other countries.** Check current exchange rates: <http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter>

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TRANSPORTATION

In most cities, *jeepneys*, a cross between a jeep and a bus, are the main mode of transportation. They are popular for both local travel and long-distance journeys. Unfortunately, drivers tend to wait until the *jeepney* is full before they depart. As a result, you may have to wait a while before the *jeepney* leaves for your desired destination. *Jeepneys* travel on set routes for the average price of about 7 pesos. If you choose to travel long distances by *jeepney*, try to find out the fare in advance. Other modes of transportation in the cities are light rail (in Manila), tricycles, pedicabs, and minibuses.



Pedicabs are very traditional and fares range from PHP 10 to 30 per trip. At least, this is the price for locals. As a foreigner, you may be charged a higher fare. Vans and minibuses are becoming a popular alternative to *jeepneys* and buses. They are operated privately and cost you at least twice the fare of a *jeepney*. However, they are much more comfortable than *jeepneys* and are usually air-conditioned.

Water travel is also another means of getting from island to island, and it is the backbone of the Philippines' overall transportation system. Virtually any mode of water transportation is available, ranging from high-class, air-conditioned ferries and catamarans to small *bangkas* or pump boats.

<https://www.internations.org/philippines-expats/guide/moving-to-the-philippines-15355/transportation-in-the-philippines-3>

GETTING THERE

The main point of entry to the Philippines is Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA), where you can expect to join long lines at the immigration counter. The second busiest airport in the country is Mactan-Cebu International Airport in Cebu City, which receives flights from Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Tokyo, and Seoul.



VISA

- Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond date of entry to the Philippines
- Local currency or financial instruments in excess of 10,000 Philippine pesos and/or foreign currency or financial instruments in excess of \$10,000 must be declared. Persons who overstay their visas are subject to fines and detention by Philippine immigration authorities.
- Travelers departing the country from international airports must pay a Passenger Service Charge in Philippine pesos.

U.S. citizens may enter the Philippines for purposes of tourism without a visa if they present their U.S. passport valid for at least six months beyond the date of their entry into the Philippines, and a return ticket to the United States or an onward ticket to another country. Upon your arrival, immigration authorities will annotate your passport with an entry visa valid for 30 days. If you plan to stay longer than 30 days, you must apply for an extension at the Philippine Bureau of Immigration and Deportation's (BI) main office at Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila, or at any of its provincial offices. Past GLT students recommend getting a 30-day visa and then asking for extension. Also no matter which visa you get you will have to pay the \$200 fee to get an ACR-I Card if you're staying in the country for more than 59 days (which you all are).

- Be calm with speaking with those working at the visa office because they won't help you solve any issues if you seem disrespectful.
- Look online for all paperwork needed to receive your ACR I-Card (photocopy of your passport picture, copy of flight, copy of passport, copy of visa, etc.).

Other option is to get a visa before traveling to the Philippines. If you know you will stay in the Philippines for more than 30 days, you can obtain a fifty-nine (59) day visa at the Philippine embassy or consulate closest to you before traveling to the Philippines.

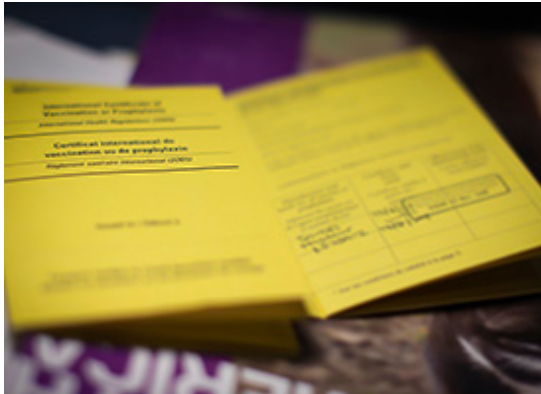
You will need a visa for your GLT. You can either enter the country or extend your visa at the Bureau of Immigration in Manila. But, it is recommended you get your visa prior to departure. You can submit your visa to a expedition service in order to ensure you get your visa in time for your departure, however this will require an extra cost. Visit the following sites to get more information:

- o <http://www.philippineconsulatela.org/consular%20services/conserv-visa.htm#2a>
- o <http://ambassadorpassportandvisa.com/Philippines-visa.html>

U.S. citizens contemplating travel to the Philippines should carefully consider the risks to their safety and security. The southern island of Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago are of particular security concern. Travelers should defer all non-essential travel to the Sulu Archipelago and should exercise extreme caution on the island of Mindanao.

Website: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/philippines.html>

IMMUNIZATIONS



Before departing, it is required for you to visit your physician to complete your health clearance forms. To protect your health in Colombia, you may need certain pre-departure immunizations followed by reasonable health precautions while in the country. Vaccinations are not required, but recommended against hepatitis A, hepatitis B, rabies, and typhoid. Influenza, yellow fever, tetanus and diphtheria vaccinations should also be up to date. If you choose to take a Malaria prophylaxis you can get it at a pharmacy in the Philippines.

It is important to follow the health recommendations from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/travel).

Additional Medical Considerations: Dengue Virus—A mosquito borne virus that is prevalent in the Philippines. Mosquitos thrive around stagnant water. Be sure to use mosquito nets and mosquito repellent to help you avoid mosquito bites. **Parasites**—When living in crowded communities, areas with livestock, or places that have polluted water, parasites can affect human well being. To avoid parasites be sure to wear shoes, wash your hands regularly, and make sure your food is properly cooked. If you fear that you have a parasite, seek medical attention.

LANGUAGE LEARNING

Language school: His Name Salt: <http://hisnamesalt.com/> in Quezon City

0 Golden St., Gloria 1 Subd.

Tandang Sora

1116 Quezon City

Metro Manila, Philippines

+632 9209225

+63 917 8411525 (Globe)

+63 925 5315559 (Sun)

Nenette Cada <hisname.salt@gmail.com>

Telephone:

+632 9209225

+63 917 8411525

By public:

1. Take a bus (“Fairview” or “Lagro”) going to the Q.C. Hall.
2. Get down in front of the National Housing Authority (“Housing”)
3. Take a jeepney (T.Sora/palengke) to **Tandang Sora market**.
4. Get down at the terminal.
5. Walk to the Visayas Wet & Dry Market.
6. Take a short cut through the market (Dunkin Donut stall).



His Name - SALT #40 Golden Street, Gloria 1 Subdivision., Tandang Sora, Quezon City. Tel 920-9225

7. Turn left on Golden St. His Name is located at the end of Golden St. There is a big building across the street -Sphinx Security Agency.

Language Learning [Tagalog]

- Interactive Language and Filipino Culture Resources: http://www.seasite.niu.edu/TAGALOG/Tagalog_mainpage.htm
- On-line Tagalog learning courses: <http://www.ats-group.net/languages/language-learn-tagalog.html>
- *I'd Like to Speak Filipino I: Introduction to Conversational Filipino for Non-Filipinos*

HOST FAMILY

Students are required to live with a host family for at least two months of their GLT. Host families support cultural integration and understanding, language learning, and local relationship formation. The role of the site facilitator is to assist student-host family placements. Once students have identified their host families, they are encouraged to communicate with their host families prior to departure in order to know the expectations their host family has for them. Room and board payments are estimated to be \$250-\$300 a month, but will vary depending on the location and family.



EXCURSIONS

All excursions and recreational travel should be postponed until after you have completed all academic work. Sites that may be visited include museums, parks, plazas, churches, Manila Bay, Chinatown, Fort Santiago, Makati, Cebu, and Boracay.



VISITORS

Parents or friends may wish to visit you while they are on GLT. This can be a wonderful experience; however, GLT strongly discourages and will not provide support for any visitors during the term, due to the rigorous nature of the program and the disruption that such visits cause in program flow and can interrupt your academic research process. You should be sure that relatives and friends are aware of this policy and you will not be excused from program components to

attend to visitors. Visitors are also not allowed to stay with the host family that you are living with. Even if the host family seems ok with it, it is not allowed due to the fact that it could cause economic strain on the family, as well as it may violate cultural taboos within the community.

ACCOMODATIONS

OMF Guesthouse (operated by Overseas Missionary Fellowship; ambiance very home-style; rooms similar to hotel; great rates)

Neil & Rachel Rae

900 Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City

Tel: (02) 9310350/09082582367

Email: Ph.mcm@omfmail.com>

SITE FACILITATOR- *GLT PHILIPPINES*



Elmer Buado

Born in Nueva Ecija, Philippines, Elmer received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics and Communications Engineering at Wesleyan University – Philippines. After working for almost a decade in engineering field, he was called to be a fulltime missionary serving the poorest of the poor in Manila and nearby provinces. after receiving ministerial enhancement program of Asia Graduate School of Leadership and Asia Theological Seminary, he finished Master of Biblical Studies leading to Master of Divinity at Harvesters College and Seminary, he enjoyed his passion of interacting with people in multiracial environment.

** GLT Student Development Mentor and GLT Alumni*

If you have any further questions, please contact your GLT coordinator for information on how to contact a GLT alumnus and get tips or advice in living in Uganda. There will also be a GLT representative available in the Center for Global Learning and Engagement (CGLE) office to answer questions relating to GLT and how to participate upon return from GLT in becoming an alumni mentor on APU campus.²

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Potential GSP Topics:

Overseas Foreign Workers, Remittances and the Filipino Economy
Climate Change Adaptation
Disaster Management and Preparedness
Sex Tourism and the Economy
Church Involvement in Politics
Women in Politics
Family Politics
K-12 Education
Family Planning and Population Growth
Environmental Conservation
Gender and Sexuality (Baklas and Tom Boys)

Potential Internship Sectors:

Local Government Unites (LGU's)
Marine Protection
Non-Traditional Education for the Poor
Youth Development
Livelihood Training
Environmental Protection
Climate Change Adaptation/Disaster Management
Nutrition and/or Public Health
Urban Ministry



RESOURCES

- Theodore Gochenour, *Considering Filipinos*. InterAct.
- Filipino Norms and Etiquette: <http://www.apmforum.com/columns/orientseas6.htm>
- Stanley Karnow, *In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines*. Ballantine Books, 1989.
- David Joel Steinberg, *The Philippines: A Singular and a Plural Place*, 4th ed. Westview Press, 2000.
- Manuel Caoili, *The Origins of Metropolitan Manila: A Political and Social Analysis*. Cellar Book Shop. 1989. [on Manila]
- Alfred Rocas & Grace Rocas, *Culture Shock! Philippines*. Graphic Arts Center Publishing Company, 1992.
- Lonely Planet Philippines: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/philippines>

Slums

- Antonilao, Lou. *Culture of Improvisation: Informal Slum Settlements and Slum Upgrading in a Metro Manila Locality*. IPC Reports (Inst. Of Phil. Culture, ADMU) (2004): 51-83.
- Keyes, W.J. and M.C. Burcroft. *Housing The Urban Poor*. IPC Poverty Research Series No.4 (Quezon City, Ateneo de Manila University)
- Asian Development Bank. 2005. *Technical Assistance to the Republic of the Philippines for Preparing the Metro Manila Urban Services for the Poor Project*. <http://www.adb.org/Documents/TARs/PHI/tar-phi-38398.pdf>.
- Asian Development Bank. 2000. *On-Site Urban Upgrading for Vulnerable Slum Communities in Payatas*. Manila.
- Endriga, Dolores A; Rebullida, Ma. Lourdes G; Santos, Geraldine G. (1999). *Housing the Urban Poor, Policies, Approaches, Issues*. UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies.
- Jacano, F.L. (1975). *Slum as a way of life: A study of coping behavior in an urban environment*. Quezon City: New Day.
- Berner, E. (1997) *Defending a Place in the City: Localities and the Struggle for Urban Land in Metro Manila*. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University Press.
- Caoili, M. (1988) *The Origins of Metropolitan Manila: A Political and Social Analysis*. Quezon City: New Day Publishers.
- Karaos, A. (1995) Manila's urban poor movement: the social construction of collective identities. PhD thesis, New School for Social Research
- Shatkin, G. (2001) Agents of change? Community-based organizations and the politics of shelter delivery in Metro Manila, the Philippines. PhD thesis, Rutgers University, New Brunswick
- Political Participation Among Slum Dwellers: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/section?content=a787032206&fulltext=713240928>

Family Organization

- Belen Medina, *The Filipino Family* (Quezon City: U. of Philippines)
- Tomas Andres, *Positive Filipino Values* (New Day: Quezon City)

GSP

Sex sector

- **[Purchase]** Lin Lean Lim (1998). *The Sex Sector: The Economic and Social Bases of Prostitution in Southeast Asia*. International Labour Organization.
- **[Link +]** Let the Good Times Roll: Prostitution and the U.S. Military in Asia [photocopy chapters on Philippines]
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_trafficking_in_the_Philippines [See the many hyper-linked resources at end of page]
- **[Contact]** “Samaritana” (project of Samaritana Transformation Ministries). Jonathaan & Thelma Nambu co-direct <http://www.samaritana.org/>
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