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**It's More Fun in the Philippines**

The Philippines is an archipelagic Democratic state that is a melting pot of Eastern and Western cultures. Prior to being colonized by the Spaniards in 1565, it was already populated by a diverse society that traded with neighbouring cultures.

The arrival of the Spaniards, when Ferdinand Magellan landed in Samar in 1521 signalled a turning point in Philippine society. The country, named after King Felipe II, came together under a unified political and religious structure, with the introduction of Catholicism, as well as the code of law. The friars, who were the main instrument of colonisation, also established the oldest modern university in Asia, the University of Sto. Tomas, which is directly under the rule of the Vatican.

After the Philippine Revolution in 1898, the country gained temporary liberty, only to be colonised again by the United States of America. In 1916, the US government formally promised the country independence through the Jones Act.

The Philippines was then extensively damaged by the two World Wars because of American involvement in its affairs. However, it was able to recover after peace was restored across the globe.

It came under dictatorship in 1972 with the rule of President Ferdinand Marcos, but democracy was restored through a peaceful revolution in 1986, where President Corazon Cojuangco-Aquino became the first woman president of the country.

Today, the country enjoys a robust economic outlook, the darling of business investors and a vibrant society fully engaged with the global community, especially through technology. Makati, one of the major cities in the Metro, was declared the selfie capital of the world, besting even New York , in a recent poll by Time Magazine.

Outside the urban centres, there is a lot to appeal to the nature lover. Because it is an archipelago, the Philippines is home to numerous magnificent beaches. Trekkers who love mountaineering can also find a mountain or two to climb here.

**Language**

Filipino, which is a variation of the Tagalog dialect, is the National Language. English is widely spoken. Waylay an ordinary pedestrian and you can hold a decent conversation with him, albeit sometimes you must expect broken English, which the locals facetiously call Carabao English (after the National Animal, the Carabao, or the water buffalo).

**Dining and Shopping**

There are notable destinations near the Philippine International Convention Centre for dining, most of them posh hotels, among them the historic Manila Hotel, Bayleaf Hotel, Hotel Sofitel, and Manila Diamond Hotel. For your shopping fix, the nearest destination is the SM Mall of Asia, which is situated conveniently near Roxas Boulevard and is large enough to cater to most of your cravings. But if you have a day to spare, head on out to Bonifacio Global City in Taguig City and Ayala Centre in Makati City (which are situated beside each other) for a truly cosmopolitan experience. They have luxury shops, five star hotels, as well as museums and outdoor cafes that will give you a feel of what a day out feels like for the locals.

**Historical Sites**

The Convention Venue is near relics of Spanish rule such as the walled city of Intramuros, and within it, the Fort Santiago, where the National Hero Gat. Jose P.Rizal was incarcerated prior to his execution at the nearby Luneta Park. Inside the walled city are two beautiful Churches, the Manila Cathedral and the San Agustin Church, which are both rich repositories of Spanish colonial history.

**Sunset by the Bay**

The Manila Bay sunset is said to be one of the most beautiful in the world. It won't be hard to miss, given that the Convention Centre is right along Roxas Boulevard, whose perimeter embraces the Manila Bay shoreline. Come in the late afternoon and sample the street treats from the stalls that pepper the Baywalk while waiting for the sun to set. It is sure to be a salve to any nature lover's soul.

**Credit Cards**

Most shops accept credit cards, but bazaars and public markets don't so it's best to carry cash with you. Carry them in small denominations (hundreds and below, no five hundred and one thousand notes) and in separate wads that you can keep in different pouches in your bag. When going for a stroll, err on the side of caution and don't bring important documents and IDs with you. Just the cash you'll need for the trip and one credit card and ID will do.

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**CONGRESS INFORMATION**

Welcome letter from PPA President

Or Joint Statement by the PPA President and WPA President

**Committees**

(Various Congress Committees)

**Venue**

The Philippine International Convention Centre is a convention centre located in the Cultural Centre of the Philippines Complex in Pasay, Metro Manila.

The Centre was designed by Architect Leandro Locsin, who was later declared a National Artist. Construction started in November 1974 and was completed in September 1976. Its first official function was as venue of the IMF-World Bank meeting in 1976.

(Please add Google Map for the location).

**Contact Us:**

Secretariat

www. philpsych.ph

Email: philpsych\_org@yahoo.comTelephone Number: +632.6359858Address: Unit 1011 Medical Plaza Bldg.San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig CityFacebook: Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc. (PPA)

Twitter: PPA Psychiatry/ @PPA\_Psychiatry

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(new section)

**REGISTRATION**

Register now!

Early Bird Rate

On-site Registration Fee

**Fee Covers: (I copied this from the HK Website)**

* Congress Scientific Sessions Attendance
* Participation in Opening Ceremony, Welcome Cocktail and Closing Ceremony
* Admission to the Exhibition Area
* Congress bag, Congress documents, Abstracts, Final Programme and other congress materials
* Coffee breaks

**Credit Card Payments**

(Logos? Mastercard/Visa)

**Refund Policy**

(Please fill in)

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(new section)

**PROGRAMME**

**Programme Book**

(Downloadable File?)

**Call for Abstracts (?) (I just paraphrased some of the provisions in the HK Website, but it is generally the same) :**

1. Workshops and Symposia Submissions: **DATE**
2. Estimated date of notification (via email): **DATE**
3. Oral/Poster submissions: **DATE**
4. Estimated date of notification (via email): **DATE**
5. Abstracts will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee which will accept or refuse these abstract, to designate a paper as an oral, poster, or other type of presentation and to choose a suitable session for it.
6. Abstracts follow the template and should contain a maximum of **300 words**. Abstracts must be submitted in English and are recommended with the following outlines:
   1. Objectives
   2. Methods
   3. Results
   4. Conclusions
   5. References
7. Abstracts should be thoroughly checked to preclude spelling, grammatical or scientific errors because the abstract will be reproduced verbatim. There will be no editing service available for the abstracts.
8. Acronyms and abbreviations must be properly defined. Each abstract should have 5 references at most.
9. Accepted abstracts will be included in the Congress CD, which will be distributed at the Congress.
10. Authors whose abstracts were accepted must register for the Congress before **DATE** to be included in the Scientific Program.
11. Authors are expected to attend the Conference and present the abstract at the session at the time specified by the Scientific Committee.

Should you encounter difficulties in submitting your abstracts/proposals or need additional information, please contact the Congress Secretariat at philpsych\_org@yahoo.com.

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**HOTEL AND TRAVEL**

**Appointed Travel Agency**

Line of Services and Products

Contact Details of Travel Agency

**Alternative Accommodations**

Links to Hotel Websites

**Optional Tours**

Tour Description

Contact Person

Contact Details

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**SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION**

The WPA-PPA Regional Congress abounds with sponsorship opportunities that have the potential to introduce your company and communicate specific messages to various medical and professional publics in the Philippines during the Congress.

To download the Sponsorship Prospectus, please click [here](http://www.wpa2014hongkong.org/sponsorsandexhibition/WPA%202014%20Sponsorship%20Package_v9.pdf).

For further information, or if you wish to customise a specific Sponsorship Package for your organisation please feel free to get in touch with the individual listed below through the following contact details:

**CONTACT PERSON**

Address:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Telephone | : |  |
| Fax | : |  |
| E-mail address | : |  |