

ZAMBOANGA - DAVAO - COTABATO - JOLO

The climate of Zamboanga and Cotabato may be considered as a general indication of the climate of southern Mindanao; the climate of Davao is typical of that of the inner gulf; the climate of Jolo may be taken as representative of the Sulu Archipelago.

The island of Jolo ranks first in size among the islands of the Sulu Archipelago, being about 60 kilometers long and 23 kilometers broad at its greatest width. Its charming configuration shows a series of mountains and hills of gentle slope up to heights of about 900 meters, and of undulating hills and valleys always green with luxuriant vegetation. The town of Jolo is the capital of the archipelago and is located on a wide bay on the north side of the western end of the island. Jolo is so far south and so far removed from the influence of typhoons, that its system of rains is controlled by the general law of the double tropical rainy season. The Sun passes the zenith of Jolo in its northward motion on April 6th and in its southward motion on September 8th. One rainy and dry season should occur while the sun is north of the zenith: the other rainy and dry season should take place after the passage of the sun over the zenith on its southward motion. The observations of Jolo confirm this anticipated result. The mean rainfall of Jolo, based on the observations from 1903 to 1929, is as follows: January, 131.9mm; February, 116.9; March, 105.0; April, 159.1; May, 195.3; June, 218.5; July, 166.0; August, 173.2; September, 184.9; October, 230.2; November, 210.6; December, 164.4. These observations, if plotted, show one principal maximum in October, one secondary maximum in June, one principal minimum in March and one secondary minimum in July, namely both a dry and a wet season, both when the Sun is north and south of the zenith. The winter season is more pronounced than the