



## Conflict Resolution: Philippine Style

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### ABSTRACT

*The peace practices of Ifugao, Kalinga, Talaandig, Itneg, Tiruray, Maranao, and Mamanua were discussed and the formal process codified into five stages. Special emphasis was placed on the importance of the mediators of the peace process. Corporate Social Responsibility is a common concern of corporations that hold themselves accountable citizens of their community. The company secured the safety of their plan, by creating a zone of friendship where executives and their families learned to share the benefits of civilized life with their lowliest employee, bringing hope and faith to a troubled community.*

*Hacenderos in Bacolod were not troubled as Hacienda Luisita where the farmer beneficiaries did not have to buy their stock options. Hacienda Luisita farmers lost their jobs through mechanization of the farm and therefore, lost also their option to purchase stocks. The compassion of the owners in Bacolod is matched by the gratitude of the farmers. Justice has to be sought first, before peace can be achieved. In this case the agreement when the land was bought through government loans was for the land to be resold at cost to the farmers after 10 years. That was in the 60s, 50 years ago. The farmers still do not have their land.*

*Towards July, 2008 a MOA on the Ancestral Domain was reached by the peace panel a day before the SONA of President Arroyo. The local government officials were up in arms against the agreement while the MILF started their violent protest against the protesters. The very constitutionality of the agreement was questioned. Finally, the government chose to distance itself from the agreement. Trust in the negotiating body was not established. Hidden agenda was suspected. Consultation was allegedly not done for the agreement to be acceptable, and finally, Malacañang had to distance itself from the agreement.*

### I. Conflict Resolution in Indigenous Communities

Baring the breasts was one of the strategies used to protest against the construction of Chico Dam (1974) and to protest against companies who advertise infant formula (June 20, 2007). These are indigenous ways of staging a protest.

Similarly, to settle differences the eldest sons who were in their early teens, were exchanged between warring tribes. The boys were temporarily adopted by the elders of the opposing tribes and raised as their own to ensure peace. While the children were in the homes of the warring tribe, they did not dare attack each other for fear that their sons would be in harms' way.<sup>1</sup>