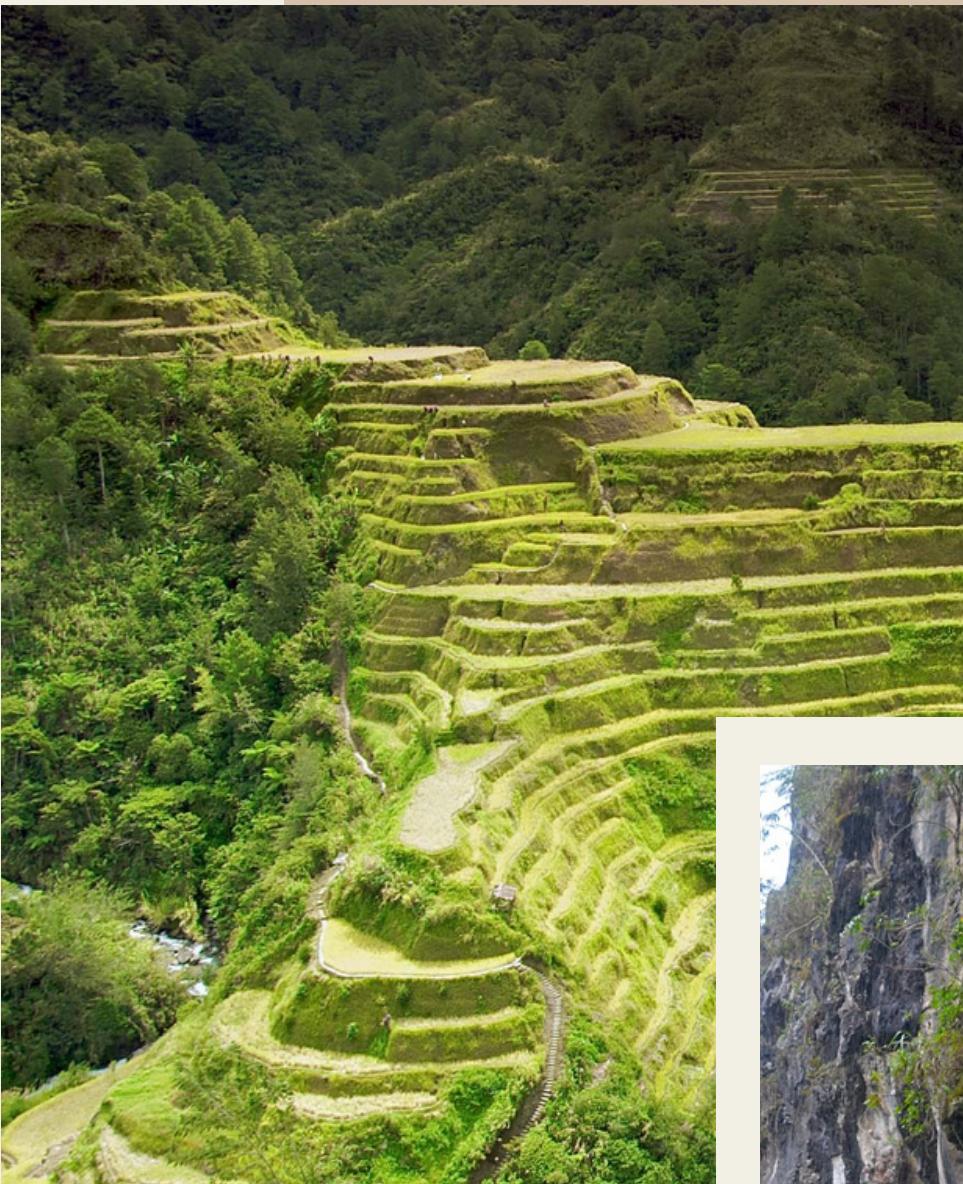




# INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES IN THE PH

Stanford PASU x Malaya SB



# Agenda

Current Indigenous Issues  
Background on Indigenous Culture  
Appropriation vs Appreciation  
Comparison of US and PH

# Status of IP today

**Indigenous communities are victims of systemic racism.**

- Economic: Driven into poverty, land stolen and destroyed
- Political: Little to no political representation
- Cultural: Dehumanized through racist slurs and policy





# Lumad Revolution

Lumad lands have been a target of Duterte and mining corporations. However, the Lumad are fighting back.

[link to video](#)

## 37 Lumad families evacuate after AFP drops 8 bombs on ancestral lands

At least 37 Lumad families from Sitio Panukmoan and Decoy in Diatagon, Lianga, Surigao del Sur evacuated to a neighboring community after the bomber planes of the AFP dropped **eight bombs** near their community at 2:00am on July 15, 2020.

Residents, especially the children and elders, were gravely traumatized by the incident.

---

URGENT  
ALERT



# Characteristics of Indigenous Cultures

## IGOROT

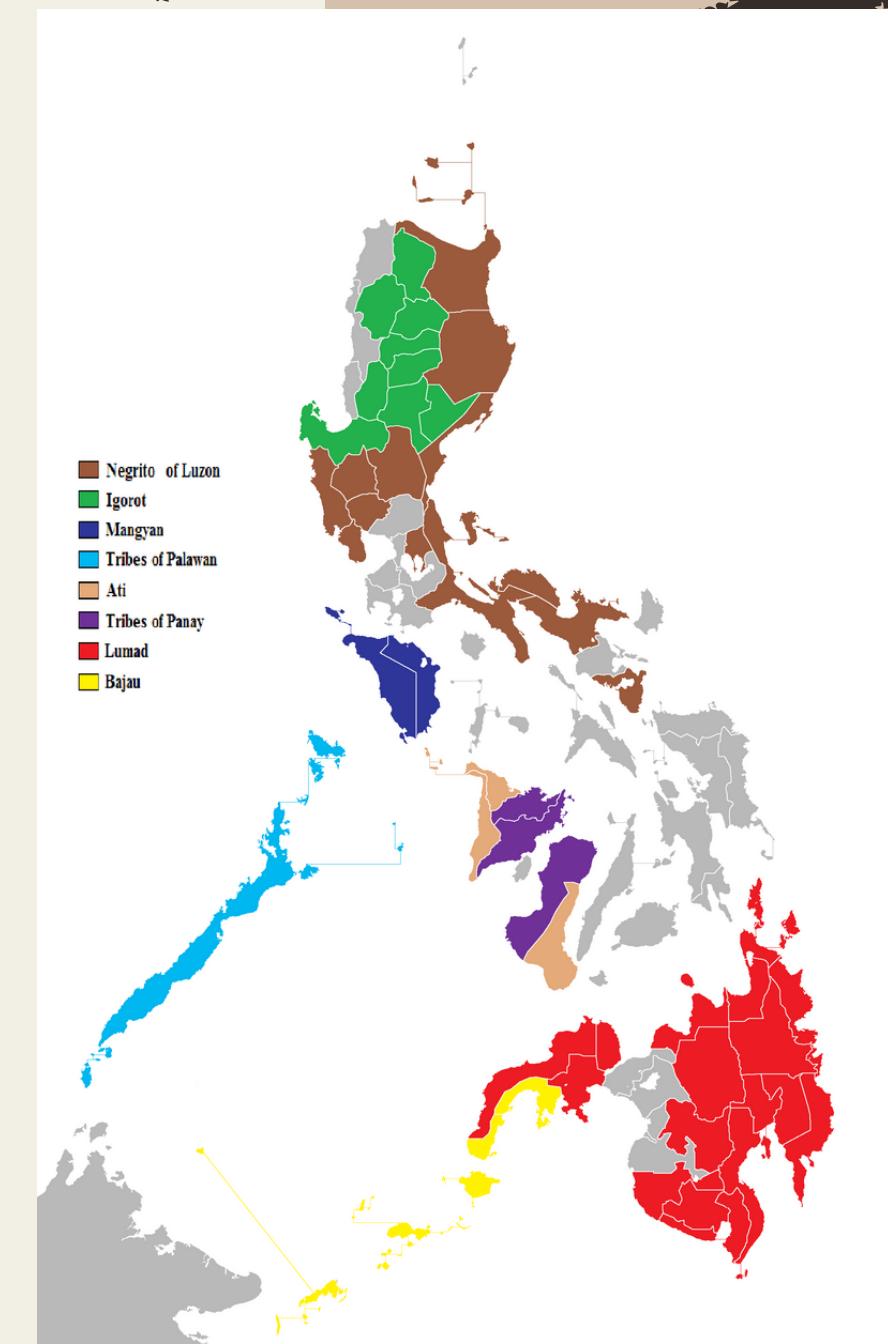
*Cordilleras*  
Ifugao, Bontoc,  
Ibaloi, Isneg,  
Kalinga,  
Kankanaey, and  
Tinguian

## LUMAD

*Mindanao*  
Blaan, Bukidnon,  
Higaonon,  
Mamanwa, Mandaya,  
Manobo, Mansaka,  
Sangir, Subanen,  
Tagabawa,  
Tagakaulo, Tasaday,  
and T'boli.

## OTHERS

Badjaos, Ati and  
Tumandok,  
Palawan,  
Mangyan, and  
Aetas or  
Negritos.



# A very brief history

## PRE-COLONIZATION

Colonization is not civilization.

Indigenous Filipinos had their own class systems, trade routes, script, and advanced farming techniques.

## DURING COLONIZATION

Communities fled Spanish colonization and practiced their culture in the mountains where the Spanish were unable to travel.

## EFFECTS OF COLONIZATION

Indigenous culture is looked down upon due to colonial mindset. Along with this, colonizers have set up puppet governments that rip land away from IP for profit.



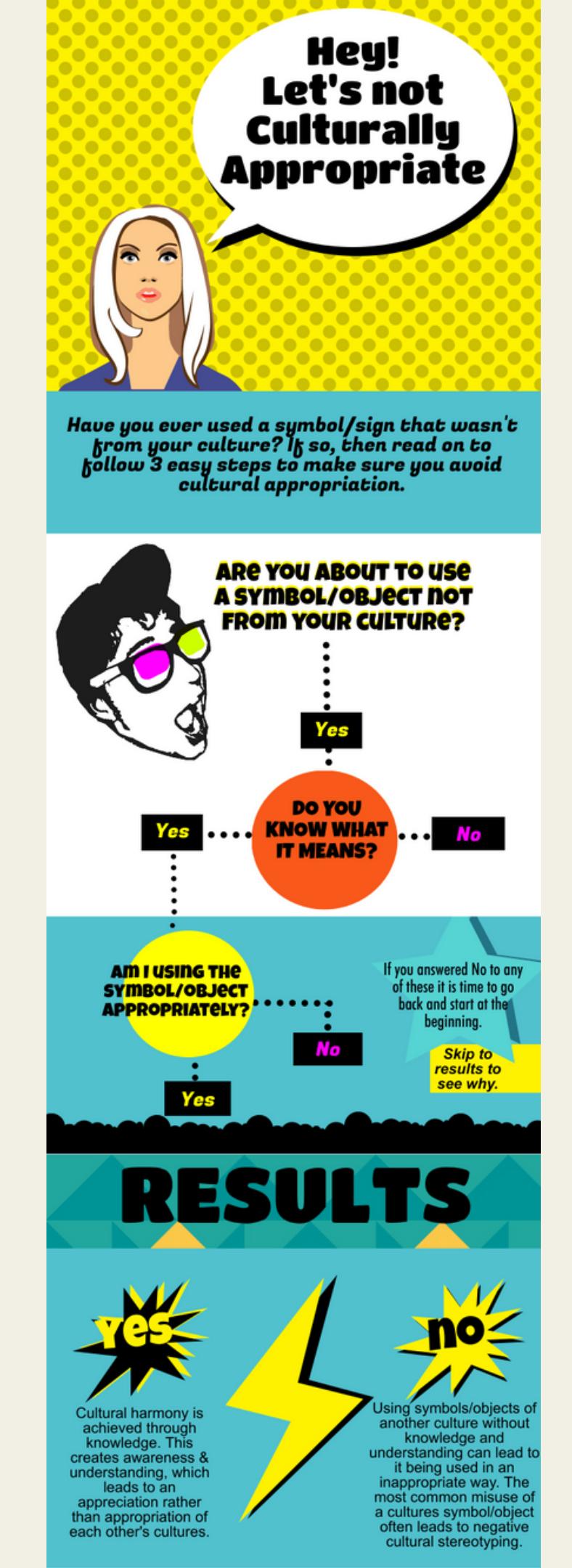


# INDIGENOUS CULTURES IN MAINSTREAM FILIPINO CULTURE

## Cultural Appropriation vs Appreciation

**Appreciation:** learning and understanding the background, history, and culture of a practice/item to broaden one's perspective & connect across cultures!

**Appropriation:** taking/consuming something that is not of your culture for personal purposes without understanding the context and significance behind it



**INSTEAD OF ASKING AN INDIGENOUS PERSON,  
“....BUT AREN’T ALL FILIPINOS INDIGENOUS?”**

#### MOVE TOWARDS ASKING...

- How has my nuclear circle been complicit in erasing Indigenous Peoples?
- How has my privilege benefited from Indigenous Peoples' erasure?
- How does the experiences of Indigenous People in the Philippines differ from my own experiences as a non-Indigenous person? And or how do the experiences of Indigenous People from the Philippines differ from my own experiences as a non-Indigenous person, in diaspora?

**INSTEAD OF ASKING, “IF IT’S NOT APPROPRIATE TO PRACTICE INDIGENOUS SPIRITUALITY AND RITUALS THEN HOW CAN I SPIRITUALLY CONNECT TO MY IDENTITY?”**

#### MOVE TOWARDS ASKING...

- How can I provide better and more timely tangible support to Black and Indigenous People?
- What will I learn about my own cultural values by actively uplifting others instead of only perpetuating the narrative I’m comfortable with?

**INSTEAD OF ASKING, “AREN’T WE REVIVING LOST FORMS OF CULTURE BY PERFORMING DANCES, RECEIVING TATTOOS, AND WEARING THE TEXTILES? ISN’T THIS OUR WAY TO HELP PRESERVE AND HONOR YOUR CULTURE?”**

#### MOVE TOWARDS ASKING...

- Why do I want to perform or wear a culture that doesn’t need revival instead of learning how Indigenous People preserve their cultures for themselves?
- Is what I’m doing a form of saviorism?
- Why do I feel as though I’m in a position to save Indigenous people from their own erasure?
- Have I benefited from the privilege that uplifts those who tokenize Indigenous People and ignores the voices of those impacted?
- What do I tangibly know about these cultures beyond the desire to consume them?



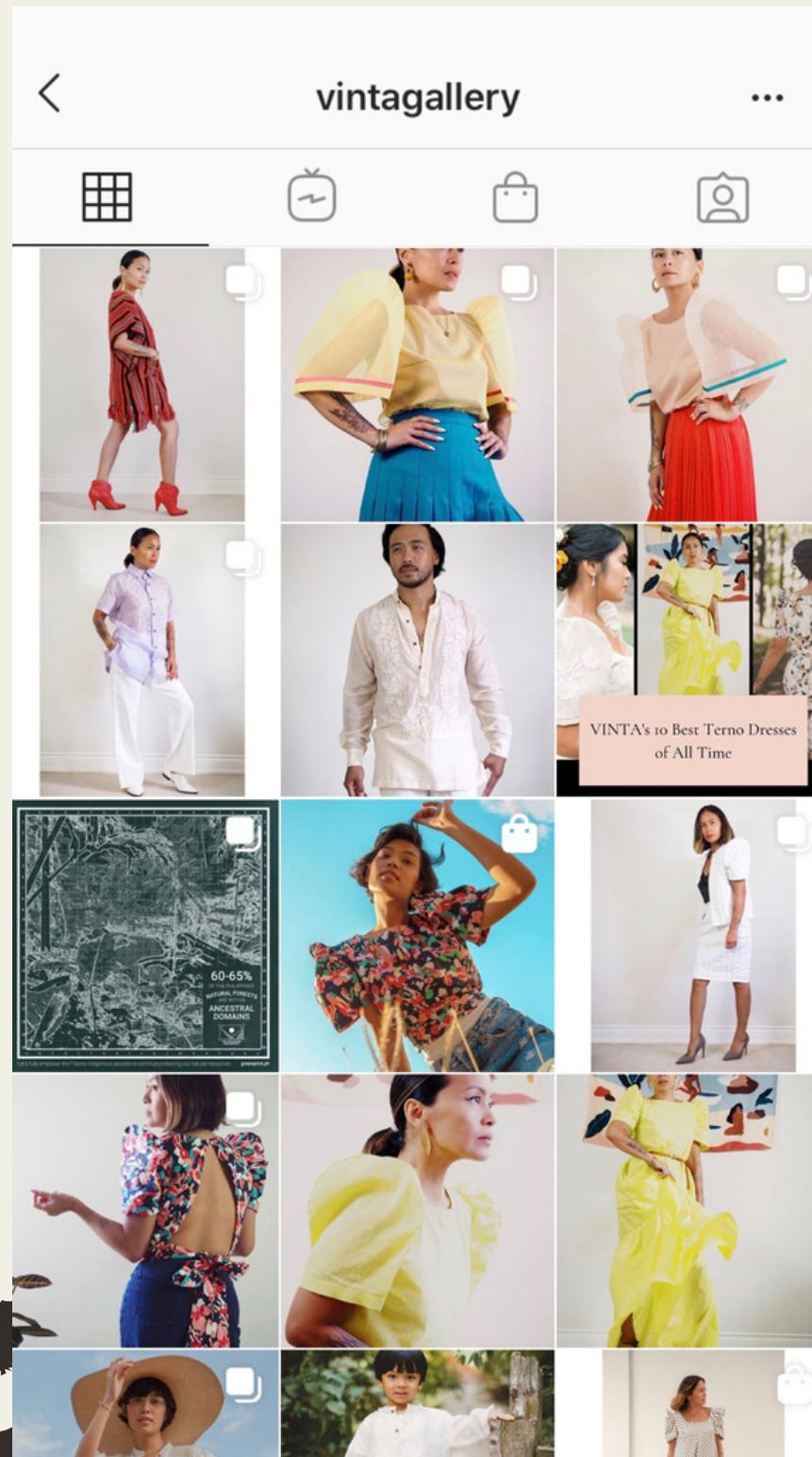
**Inabel textiles, brass of the  
Tausug**



**Binakul, made in Sarrat, Ilocos Norte**



**Ramit fabric of the Mangyan**



**Rethinking Aspects of  
Our Culture**

# **CULTURAL APPROPRIATION OR CULTURAL APPRECIATION? DISCUSSION**

# What can we do?

## DONATE

Liyang Network

venmo- @liyangnetwork

## SIGN PETITIONS

For the Philippines to stop harassment  
of Indigenous Activists/Allies

<http://chng.it/HrvYnTVKvN>

To support the PHRA

[www.tinurl.com/phrasupport](http://www.tinurl.com/phrasupport)

## TALK TO YOUR CONGRESSPEOPLE

Call/email your representatives & ask  
them to sign on to the PHRA

KABATAAN ALLIANCE & MALAYA  
SOUTH BAY

# Philippine Human Rights Act (PHRA) Unity Call

Friday August 21st | 6 PM PT  
[tinyurl.com/unity821](https://tinyurl.com/unity821)

Join Malaya South Bay  
and Kabataan Alliance  
as we unite on the  
direction for the  
Philippine Human Rights  
Act campaign in our area!



# Announcements

