

Adow ne Domaget 2020 KKK Radio Festival – Episode 6  
Transcript translated to English

[Program jingle: Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK! Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK!]

**Angel**

Mates! How are you? We continue to pray for everyone's protection from any disasters, especially during this pandemic. I am Angela Lawenko-Baguilat from AARPS, and with me is Alysa Curioso, who you will hear from shortly on our program. It's sad to think that this marks the final episode of Dumagat Day 2020 KKK - Stories, Culture, and Health. It feels like time has flown by so quickly, like only a few weeks ago we first aired our program, a few weeks after the country went into lockdown.

Now, over a month later, and we have reached our final episode. It's bittersweet to reflect on all that's happened. Each episode of our program has been brimming with information, stories, songs, and valuable information about our Domaget community, with particular focus on preserving our indigenous culture. Last Saturday, we had the pleasure of featuring Richard Estanes' music on the Dumagat Culture segment and discussing the role of youth in promoting culture. Today, we have Jessabel Friginal as our guest to share her thoughts on the Dumagat youth's efforts to navigate the challenges of the modern world.

[Kaedup Kultura stinger]

**Jessabel Friginal**

I am Jessabel Friginal, from Matawe. I am the president of the United Dumagat Youth here in Cabog.

## **Angel**

In the last episode, I caught a mention of your song "Diola Di Kami" being somewhat modern. Can you share what modernity means to you, Jessa?

## **Jessabel Friginal**

To me, modern means something that is easy to keep up with, widely appreciated, and memorable, especially for the youth today. Young people tend to remember songs more for their catchy melodies and beats. I always remind the youth not to forget our traditions, even if the melody of our songs may change. That's what I tell them. Some of our indigenous people married Tagalog partners, so their children struggle to speak Dumagat. In that song, we have many young people who can relate, which makes me happy because they improve... despite not being fluent in our language, at least with that song, they can sing along.

## **Angel**

Let's listen to the song "I Domaget" by Jessabel Friginal sung by the members of United Dumagat Youth or NKD.

[NKD sings "I Domaget"]

## **Angel**

Thank you very much Jessa for sharing your song and thoughts.

## **Jessabel Friginal**

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone. Thank you to Mayor Shierwin Taay for his unwavering support and love for our community. I am also thankful to Ma'am Roselle for encouraging and empowering us to be more confident. I would also like to extend my appreciation to AARPS for continuously reminding the youth to value and preserve our culture. That concludes my message, thank you very much.

**Angel**

Wow, Jessa's statement about their responsibility in promoting the Dumagat language through modern songs is really great. As the saying goes, if a language is not being used or promoted, it will die. Thus, popular songs in Dumagat, like Jessa's, can help new generations learn their dying language, promote it, and most importantly, be proud of their language and culture. Long live the Dumagat youth who are advancing their native language.

And since we're on the topic of the youth and indigenous culture, let's move on to the indigenous youth from the southern part of the Philippines, the Lumad. The Lumad collectively refer to the indigenous people in Mindanao, including the Manobo, Bagobo, T'boli, and others.

**Angel**

Today, we will have the opportunity to listen to the Lumad youth from Save our Schools who are currently camped at the University of the Philippines, Diliman. They are there due to the severe violence and forced evacuations they are facing in their communities and schools, so perhaps we'll gain a deeper understanding of their struggle by hearing their message and their song "Moni Kali Sud" directly from them. Let us lend our ears to the Lumad youth from Save our Schools.

**Rose**

A liberating day to everyone. I am Rose, a volunteer teacher in our Lumad school in Mindanao. To our Dumagat brothers and sisters, from our Lumad brothers and sisters in Mindanao, we express our solidarity in our continuous struggle to defend our ancestral lands and fight for self-determination.

**Angel**

Thank you very much, Lumad youth of Save our Schools. As we stand in solidarity with the indigenous Dumagat in Dingalan, Aurora, we also express our unwavering support for your fight in Mindanao. Let us hope that our joint efforts will effectively eradicate the marginalization of indigenous communities.

Angel

Alysa, are you ready? We missed you!

**Alysa**

Good day to all of you, good day to all our listeners.

**Angel**

So, Alysa, what can you say about the songs of other indigenous peoples in our country? Do you remember last Saturday when we heard a song from the Igorot people in the Cordillera? And now, it's from the Lumad youth in Mindanao. What are your thoughts, Alysa?

**Alysa**

Ma'am Angel, mates, it's a mix of sadness and joy that I feel right now hearing these songs from fellow indigenous people from different parts of the country - from the Cordillera in the north, to us in the Sierra Madre in the east, and to the Lumad in the south. It's sad because it seems like we are all experiencing the same hardships and difficulties. It's painful to see our culture being forgotten and pushed away, and to fight for our ancestral lands where we are being displaced.

You see, Ma'am, our ancestral land is our life, and sometimes I feel that learning traditional culture is pointless if we cannot freely practice it on our ancestral lands. For us, Ma'am, culture is not just something to showcase in videos or museums, it's a way of life that's deeply connected to the land. If we lose our land, we lose our

culture and our life.. I hope our listeners understand this. On the other hand, I am also uplifted and happy, Ma'am, because listening to the artistic creations of fellow indigenous people from all over the country makes me feel like we are not alone. That we are all in this fight together, and that we are united.

## **Angel**

Absolutely, Alysa. You are not alone, and we are all in this fight together. And I'm sure you'll be even more delighted to know that the struggle for indigenous culture is not just happening in our country, but also in many indigenous communities across the sea. So, let's check in now with our international correspondent for updates on those news. Jen, what's the update on international news?

## **Jen**

Thank you and good morning, Angel! Do you hear the music in the background? That's the voices and sounds of neighbours in Bamberg, Germany, playing together. During the height of the lockdown, they went out to their balconies, some even on their rooftops, each with their own instrument, and played "Bella Ciao." "Bella Ciao" is a song from Italy that celebrates the beauty of protesting and fighting for freedom. The Germans sang it to show their solidarity and support for Italy, one of the countries hardest hit by the health crisis in Europe. It's truly heart-warming and hopeful to see and hear Germans singing together in support of their neighbouring country. [Germans singing "Bella Ciao"]

Meanwhile, in the Mao forest in Kenya, Africa, we can hear members of the tribe singing a native song. This song praises the forest where their ancestors lived and also emphasizes the need to protect their land. [Tribal Song] We can truly feel the deep emotions of the indigenous people in the mountains of Mao. Singing is indeed a powerful instrument. In fact, not only singing but any form of art can convey the feelings of indigenous people, whether it's love, unity, anger, or protest. That's our Tribal News for today. I'm Jen Gamboa, reporting.

[Tribal News stinger]

**Angel**

Thank you, Jen, for those updates. It's really uplifting to know that you are not alone, right Alysa?

**Alysa**

Yes, Ma'am Angel. What happened here because of COVID-19 sometimes makes you feel like you are alone, especially here in Dingalan where our relatives are far away. You are far from us, and we don't meet or gather together. Sometimes, it feels like you can't do anything anymore because of exhaustion and sadness. But when I hear the voices of people, their songs, especially those from our fellow indigenous people, it's like it relieves me of my tiredness and loneliness. And we continue with our work, as if drawing strength again.

**Angel**

Oh, that's true, Alysa. We also feel sad that we can't visit you. We miss you so much, that's why we have a surprise for you, greetings from some people who want to send their regards to you there in Dingalan. I wonder who they are?

**Cian Dayrit**

Greetings! I am Cian Dayrit, an artist resident at AARPS in 2019 Dumagat Day. I just want to express my solidarity with you. We are currently looking for ways to facilitate communication and use various platforms to call for the necessary help and assistance from the government. Violence is not the solution to the virus, but rather a medical solution. Let us not lose hope. We should always remember that we are on the right side of history when we fight for human rights and social justice. I hope we can see each other again soon. This too shall pass, and we will succeed. Long live!

**Carel Mapanoo**

Greetings. My name is Carel Mapanoo, and I had the privilege of being an AARPS resident during last year's Adow Ne Domaget. Despite being far from Dingalan at present, I would like to express my full support for you. I am also grateful for the opportunity you afforded me during the previous Adow Ne Domaget, from which I have learned so much. Although my residency in AARPS has concluded, I remain committed to supporting your community's objectives. My fervent hope is that everyone is secure during these pandemic times. That is all and thank you very much.

**Gene Nisperos**

I am Dr. Gene Nisperos, extending my greetings to everyone listening in Dingalan, Aurora, and especially to the Dumagat communities. I am deeply grateful and honoured to be a part of your Adow Ne Domaget Festival KKK and your efforts to promote and enrich our culture amidst the pandemic crisis. As we shape the future, it is equally important to remember our past, make it part of the present, and enrich and cultivate our culture.

As a member of the health sector, we stand with you in advancing cultural enrichment and recognition, no matter the current state of our communities. Rest assured that in promoting such initiatives, we are always ready to support and respond to your needs to the best of our ability. Once again, we salute your efforts and advocacy for cultural promotion. Until next year, I hope we can be together again. Thank you very much.

**Alysa**

Thank you very much. I'm sure our fellow tribespeople will be delighted with that greeting. It's so moving.

**Angel**

It might be good to continue the greetings of solidarity and togetherness in our last segment of the program, the Final Pasurot-surotan. As you may recall, my fellow Domagets, last Saturday we started our program with a pasurot-surotan featuring Tatay Eladio and Nanay Flora sharing about their ancestral culture and heritage. Now, in our final pasurot-surotan, Tatay Eladio will be joined by Chieftain Jhornie Mendoza of PAKNED, Tatay Danilo of Matawe, and of course, our indigenous youth leader and my co-host, Alys Curioso, who will give final instructions to our listeners about what we want for our community and how we can achieve it. Let's listen to the final pasurot-surotan of the Domagets in Dingalan.

**Tatay Eladio**

[speaks in Domaget]

**Alysa**

Grandpa's wish for us Dumagats is to preserve our culture despite the changes brought about by modern living.

**Tatay Eladio**

[speaks in Domaget]

**Alysa**

The preservation of our culture is crucial for the next generation to learn and inherit it. In today's fast-changing world, we have lost touch with our traditions and culture, but following grandpa's counsel, it is vital to keep our Dumagat culture alive to pass it on to the future generation.



It's great that there are improvements in our town, with better roads, nearby hospitals, schools, and banks. By effectively integrating these changes with our indigenous culture, we may reap even greater benefits. It is essential that we carefully consider how to utilize these changes to their fullest potential.

### **Tatay Eladio**

It is important for all Filipinos to remember their heritage and not forget it. People in various communities fight for their culture and are willing to die for it, and we also want to preserve our indigenous culture, so it won't be lost.

### **Alysa**

As a young Dumagat, I believe that it's crucial to nurture and preserve our indigenous culture, which is the first inheritance passed down to us by our ancestors and is deeply rooted in our lives. Despite the difficulty, I am convinced that we can show others our culture and traditions, with the help of our elders and community leaders, in order to sustain our Dumagat heritage. The guidance of our elders is essential in passing on their beliefs, customs, and other cultural practices to us young people, which will remain even if we are gone, as our legacy and the legacy of our elders will be passed on to future generations.

### **Angel**

Perhaps it would be nice to end this episode with the words of my co-host and youth leader, Alysa. She said that their culture should be preserved because it is the legacy left to them by their indigenous ancestors. She added that their culture is their heritage and a part of their lives. Therefore, she hopes that the elders will pass it on to their children so that when the time comes, they can also teach the younger generations. We have reached the final part of our episode, my fellow listeners. As we mentioned earlier, it may be sad, but this is the final chapter of Dumagat Day 2020 KKK.

As our farewell, let us hear from the voices behind the voices you have heard on the airwaves over the past month, as they share their stories and experiences in creating and organizing our radio program. Let us listen to the voices and messages of the Dumagat Day 2020 KKK Team.

### **Loujaye Sonido**

Good day, I am Loujaye from AARPS. You may recognize me as the one who always takes video whenever we are together in Dingalan. But even if we are apart, rest assured that we always think of you, pray for you, and our partnership will not stop. In the past weeks, I stitched together the voices in our radio drama. These are your voices, the voices of our AARPS colleagues, because we are all separated by quarantine, including our guests like Doc Gene and Bong Ramilo. So that even if we are apart, we can still hear each other, share our feelings, and experiences during these times. It is an honour for me to unite everyone's voices, even if it's just through this medium. I know that the Dumagat people are not lacking in strength and courage. Let us continue to strengthen our unity, amplify our voices, remain vigilant, and keep fighting for a healthy, humane, and free society. Long live!

### **Teta Tulay**

My name is Teta, and I'm a member of AARPS. We've been with you since the first Adow Ne Domaget. Nowadays, it's difficult to reach your place because of the unique situation we're in. Nevertheless, we want to encourage you to stay strong, continue our work of unity, and give each other strength in our community. Rest assured that we are here and finding ways to help. These past days, weeks, and months of lockdown have been a unique experience. We've shown that we can still come together through our voices, and that's how we created the Adow Ne Domaget 2020 KKK radio program. Along with Karilyo, I am deeply grateful for the experience that you have shared with us, especially the Nagkakaisang Kabataang Dumagat.

Let's continue our unity, even if it's just through our voices for now. Let's look to the future and, as the Dumagat youth say, envision and work towards achieving our dreams for our community and for everyone. Thank you so much, I'm Teta Tulay, together with Karilyo, expressing our heartfelt gratitude to all of you.

### **Jen Gamboa**

Good day! I'm Jen Gamboa from Aurora Artist Residency Program and Space or AARPS, and I am the Segment Producer of Tribal News. First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to all the Dumagat indigenous people for the trust you have given to AARPS and our collaboration. These are very important things for the success of our radio program. In the process of gathering and writing news stories for Tribal News, I have seen the importance of gathering accurate and precise information to be shared. But beyond this, it is also important to choose and provide information that will inspire our indigenous people. It is crucial to know what is happening in our country and the whole world, and to use this knowledge to take action and develop and progress our community in any way we can. This is also where I realized the importance of press freedom. If news deliverers are afraid to broadcast the truth, citizens' knowledge will undoubtedly be limited, and free thinking will be suppressed.

So once again, thank you very much for this opportunity that you have given us. And thank you for your trust. Happy Dumagat Day! This is Jen Gamboa, for your Tribal News!

### **Rosell Pineda**

Fiery greetings, everyone! I am Roselle Pineda from AARPS and the Festival Curator and Director of Dumagat Day 2020 KKK. It has been a challenging month to reminisce and think back on the experiences we had in creating this radio program. From the funny phone conversations to the difficulty in sourcing materials, what always shines through is our unwavering dedication to offering our art, culture, voices, stories, and narratives.

So, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your continued trust and support in AARPS, in me, as your partner in advocacy, research, development, and in fighting for indigenous culture and rights. Personally, I want to offer you a message of encouragement. We know these are tough times, but because we have hope for coming together again, we must endure this crisis, fight for our rights, for our beautiful tribal culture, our songs, and come together again for laughter, games, and conversations for our community's welfare. That's all for now, and until next time, you are not alone, because like the flowers of the dapdap, hope will always bloom again. Long live!

### **Angela Lawengko-Baguilat**

And of course, from me. First of all, thank you to all of you who patiently listened to my voice. For everyone's knowledge, this is my first attempt to be a radio announcer and it is an honour for me to do it for the Dumagat tribe. I also served as the communication line between AARPS and the indigenous people, and I also interviewed the guests along with Alysa, Renelyn, and Diana, and we have gone through a lot of challenges. Because we talked almost daily, I missed you all even more. I felt the difficulty you went through in talking to each other every day and I felt the difficulty you faced during this lockdown. Talking to you and hearing your stories about how you faced this pandemic by going back to your indigenous beliefs gave me the strength to believe that we can overcome this pandemic. So, thank you so much to all of you, you are truly never alone. I really love you all. Thank you.

### **Alysa**

I am grateful to you, Ma'am, for your solidarity with us in making our Dumagat Day radio program a reality. I also extend my thanks to my fellow indigenous people, the youth we interviewed, and our elders who participated despite their physical limitations. This is one of our weapons as youth, to inherit our culture from our elders. It is etched in our hearts and minds that no matter how much the world changes, even if we have straight or curly hair, or different skin colour, we will never forget our roots and our identity as Dumagat people.

I also thank the people who continue to support us and never tire of helping us. You are the reason why we continue to fight for our rights as Dumagat indigenous people in the town of Dingalan. To those around us who see us, thank you very much. You are why we continue to fight for and uphold our indigenous culture as Dumagat people.

## **Angel**

Once again, many thanks to everyone who helped us put together Dumagat Day 2020 KKK. This includes the LGU, Radyo Kaedup, Bong Romantiko, Miss Ivy Buenaventura, and Miss Jamie Amazona, as well as Mayor Shierwin Taay who was always there for us. We'd also like to thank our guests who joined us on our programs, such as Doc Gene Nisperos who provided valuable information about COVID-19, Bong Ramilo from Darwin, Australia, who participated in Sining Jamming, Karilyo from De La Salle Saint Benilde, and the performers who entertained us at Kaedup Kultura, namely Jessabel Friginal, Richard Estanes, Joanna Horomo, Dap-ayan ti Kultura iti Kordilyera (DKK) from the north, and the Lumad youth from Save Our Schools. Our gratitude also goes to the respected leaders who supported us, such as IPMR Anecita Aumentado, Tatay Eladio Loreto who spoke for Adow Ne Domaget, and Nanay Flora Loreto from Singawan. We would also like to thank PAKNED members led by Chieftain Jhornie Mendoza, Mr. Marcelino Torres, and Chieftain Bernie Curioso, as well as Grandpa Danilo and Grandpa Reynaldo Tena from Matawe who participated in the Community Meeting. Of course, we cannot forget the joyful Tres Marias of Cabog, namely Diana Escolta, Nalyn Magdaong, and Jenjen Nollado, who were our co-hosts, Renelyn Domer and Alysa Curioso, and Bong Mariano who helped us deliver important messages and documents. Thanks also to Sam Baguhin for designing all the program posters, Pol Torrente for our station ID, Edge Uyanguren for providing our stingers, and the AARPS team composed of Jen Gamboa who delivered Tribal News both locally and internationally, Teta Tulay who guided us in Episode 4 for the youth, Loujaye Sonido who edited our program and recorded our voices, and Roselle Pineda who designed the entire Dumagat Day festival and guided us in all our projects as the head of AARPS.

Once again, we thank our supporters and listeners, and we express our heartfelt gratitude to the beloved Dumagat indigenous people of Dingalan. We know that we will meet again, laugh again, embrace, tease, and sing again, so I'm wishing extra care, love, and strength to us all. This is Angela Baguilat of AARPS, along with my co-host Alysa Curioso, saying long live! And this is Dumagat Day 2020 KKK, signing off.

[Program jingle: Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK! Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK!]