

The Philippines

7,107 ISLANDS

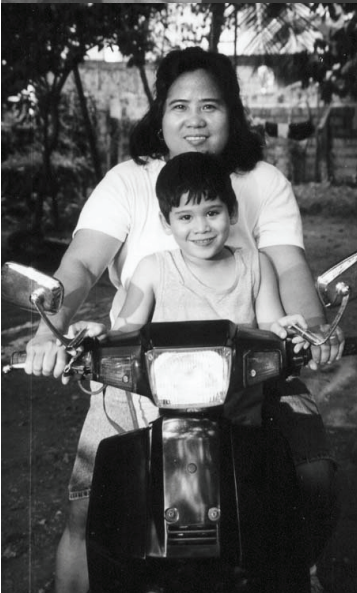
Fast Facts

Location : It is an archipelago in Southeast Asia between the Philippine Sea (part of the Pacific Ocean), and the South China Sea. It lies east of Vietnam, and its southern islands lie near Indonesia and Malaysia.

Population: The population, according to a July 2006 estimate, is around 89,468,677. The Life expectancy is averaged at 70.21 for the total population.

People/Ethnic Groups: There are many different people groups and languages in the Philippines: 28.1% Tagalogs, 13.1% Cebuano, 9% Ilocano, 7.6% Bisaya/ Binisaya, 7.5% Bikol, 3.4% Waray, and 31.3% other people groups. There are 169 languages spoken in the Philippines, but many are unreached. There are only 8 languages that have the whole Bible translated, 52 have the New Testament; and 81 languages have only part of the Bible translated. Unfortunately 28 do not have a Bible at all. The people groups are spread out throughout the 1000 inhabited islands.

Economy: The Philippines has unequal distribution of income, so even though they have had recent economic growth, much more advancement will be needed to help start alleviating poverty in the nation. The 1998 Asian financial crisis had less effect due to the high number of Filipinos working overseas. From various factors, they have incurred large national debt, but in 2005 they implemented value added tax (VAT), which boosted the Peso so that it was East Asia's best performing currency of the year. The average national income is \$1200. Major exports and national resources include: garments, pharmaceuticals, wood products, sugarcane, coconuts, rice, bananas, mangos, and fish.





Recent History

The Philippines was a Spanish colony for hundreds of years starting in the 16th century, but after the Spanish American wars in the 1890s, it was ceded to the U.S. in 1898. In 1935 it became a self-governing commonwealth, and elected President Manuel

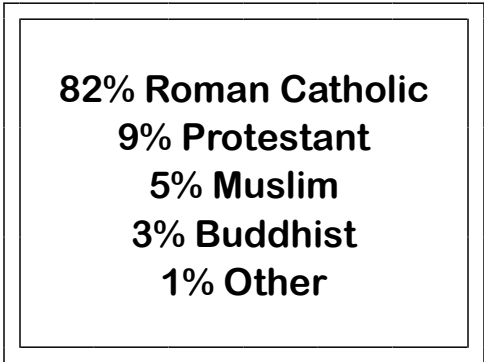
Quezon started a 10 year transition. However, Japan occupied it during WWII. The Filipino people fought alongside U.S. Forces to try and regain control, and, on July 4th, 1946 they won their independence. Throughout the following decades they had various presi-

dents, and in 2004 Macapagal Arroyo was elected to a six year term. Today there are several internal skirmishes, especially from armed communist forces and the Muslim separatists in the south.

Religion in The Philippines

Christianity and Islam have been widely embraced. Roman Catholicism came with Magellen in 1521, and Protestantism in 1899 with missionaries. Two independent Philippine churches have gained popularity. The Aglipay church has 2% of the population; and

the Iglesia ni Kristo have 2.3%, and have prominent church fixtures throughout the islands. Overall, evangelical churches have begun combining their efforts. Many churches cater to the wealthy rather than the poor in the slums or large cities.



Ministry in The Philippines

Mission to Unreached Peoples' ministry in the Philippines consists of several diverse projects which provide platforms for ministry to unreached peoples. Workers are needed to labor alongside

Filipino missionaries and become partners in bringing in the harvest by assisting native pastors and evangelists in reaching their own people. For those willing to serve God's creation, there are op-

portunities to use almost any profession and gift, including discipleship, teaching, administration, medical, and many other professional and non-professional platforms.

Placement Options in The Philippines



Current MUP involvement:

See a MUP Representative or check out our Website at www.mup.org!

Personal Qualifications

- A mature Christian with a working knowledge of the Scriptures and a consistent walk with God.
- If married, a godly family which is also committed to missionary service.
- Demonstrated skills in evangelism and discipleship.
- Unusual flexibility and adaptability, perseverance, independence, good communication skills, and sense of humor.
- A willingness to experience the rigors of life and work in a developing country while maintaining an excellent Christian witness.
- Ability and commitment to build and maintain good interpersonal relationships.
- A local church body and pastor who are supportive of your application for missionary service and who will commission and send you out from the church as a missionary.
- A willingness to learn the language and understand the culture.

Important Information

- **Training Provided:** Excellent training and preparation is vital for successful ministry in The Philippines. Mission to Unreached Peoples' training program includes Cross-Cultural Living, Friendship Evangelism, Interpersonal Relationships, Spiritual Warfare, Language Acquisition, and a variety of other ministry related topics. Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) training is also available.
- **Local Support:** A supporting team of co-workers is important to us. You will be connected to and have fellowship opportunities with MUP personnel and other missionaries and have the opportunity to develop a strong local team of co-workers.
- **Support Services:** Mission to Unreached Peoples is dedicated to providing the support that will facilitate your ministry. Services include newsletter and electronic mailings; online, automatic, and manual receipting of the financial gifts from your friends and supporters; and full online web access to financial and other organizational information. In addition, our national and field offices are available to respond to and help with special requests. Field and organization-wide conferences are scheduled regularly for spiritual and emotional refreshment, encouragement, and further equipping for the work.
- **Pastoral Care:** Pastoral care is a very important part of our ministry to you. While you are in The Philippines, field-based or itinerant member care personnel will visit with you to encourage, counsel, share, and pray with you. Our staff is there to help with special needs.
- **Financial Arrangements:** Financial needs vary depending upon the missionary's unique situation: family size, schooling options, personal standard of living, and transportation costs, etc. A customized budget is created for each missionary. One-time initial costs must be raised or paid to cover the outgoing costs such as airfare, training, and health insurance. In most cases, you will need to raise personal support to cover personal expenses, health insurance, home leave transportation, and monthly Support Services.
- **Terms of Service:** The normal term of service is two-four years, with three months of home leave for every year overseas. Actual service terms vary with the type of placement and work. Shorter placements, including short-term, summer, and internships are also available, depending on need and individual qualifications.



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