**The Culture and Tradition of Southern Alta: An Undocumented Philippine Negrito**

**by Marvin Maximo Abreu**

**Abstract**

This study aims to describe the culture and traditions of an undocumented Philippine Negrito group. The indigenous people called themselves *Dumagat* and their language Southern Alta or *Kabuloan*. However, studies on Southern Alta are centered on the ethnic group’s language such as the morphosyntactic and linguistic features, including the genetic relationships with other surrounding languages. This paper answers the gap on the ethnic group’s culture and traditions. The researcher used ethnography or total immersion and participant’s observation for more than a year in the ethnic community. Other field linguistic methods such as elicitation and translation are used to collect cultural and language data. The documentation resulted to a collection of traditional games, rituals and beliefs, oral literature and hortatory texts, world-view, traditional practices such use of herbal medicine, *sokod* or agreement, and tapping art, and pictures and sketches of traditional outfit and hunting weapons. In conclusion, the ethnic *Dumagat* whose language is *Kabuloan* is a distinct group. In addition, the group also has its own cultural identity and traditional practices.

**Key words:** Southern Alta, Philippine Negrito, Dumagat, Indigenous Culture and Tradition

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