

## A Glimpse...!

Written by ambring

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**A Glimpse At History In Relation To SIMARA ISLAND**

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History is objective; its actual occurrence is the real thing; falsity is subjective caused by human factors.

It is of common knowledge that long before the arrival of Ferdinand Magellan and his men in what is now the Philippines, the archipelago has been inhabited by Aetas (called Negritos by the Spaniards due to their black color and small built), Indonesians, Malays, Arabs, Chinese, Indians, Japanese, and other races on a permanent basis, and as traders.

The history of Simara leaves us Simaranhons with more questions than answers as to significant data and authenticity of existing information, even to this day. The consolation for us is the fact that we are not alone in this situation. I am putting forward my invitation to Simaranhons and non-Simaranhons who have objective data about the history of Simara as far back as the hands of time could reach, to make additions to and/or undertake authoritative corrections on the data that I have gathered in this glimpse in relation to Simara history. For your objectivity, I, personally, will be glad and forever grateful!

If you have unbiased data about ancient history of Simara, kindly share the same with us -- Simaranhons -- for the sake of historical significance to Simaranhon society.

In this regard, while I feel the convenience of starting my glimpse from the Spanish period, I am one of those who strongly believe that the name Simara is already in existence long before 1521.

**1521** - (March) Spanish expedition on a westward route from Spain, crossing the Pacific Ocean, led by Ferdinand Magellan, a Portuguese, reached what is now the Philippines entering the Pacific Ocean side of the Visayas and Mindanao. He was killed by Lapu-Lapu in Mactan in April that year. What was left of Magellan's men continued the voyage for the Spice Islands; at the end, only the ship Victoria with 18 men under the command of Juan Sebastian Elcano, by way of the Indian Ocean, successfully returned to Spain in 1522.

**1543** - Ruy Lopez de Villalobos and his men set foot on the islands on the same side of the Visayas which he named Las Islas Filipinas in honor of King Philip II of Spain; he left no significant mark in Philippine history except for this name; he died in the Spice Islands in 1544.

**1565** - Miguel Lopez de Legazpi established the first Spanish settlement in Cebu; among his men were Juan de Salcedo, Martin de Goiti, and Augustinian priests.

**1569** - Miguel Lopez de Legazpi ordered Martin de Goiti and Juan de Salcedo to explore the north reaching what is now Manila on May 8, 1570. Before the month ended, battles broke out between the natives under rulers Lakandula, Matanda and Sulayman, and the group under Goiti and Salcedo.

**1571** - (June 24) Miguel Lopez de Legazpi established the seat of Spanish colonial government in Manila which lasted until 1898; he died of heart failure in 1572.

**1574** - Martin de Goiti was killed by Limahong, the leader of a group of Chinese who invaded Manila; Juan de Salcedo came back to Manila from the Ilocos, and avenged his death by killing Limahong who retreated with his men to Pangasinan; Salcedo died of fever in Vigan, Ilocos Sur in 1576.

**1574** - First Spanish conquistadors arrived in Simara; a pueblo was established, a municipal government put in place, a system of government introduced, and life went on. The head of the pueblo was called Cabeza de Barangay; the last Simaranhon to hold such position was Facundo Fondevilla known as Cabeza Cundo.

**1582** - Miguel de Loarca conducted a survey of the Philippine Islands entitled *Relacion de las Islas Filipinas*. In this survey, Simara was mentioned with a population of 150 persons, and were traders.

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1621 - Recollect missionaries arrived in Simara to introduce Christianity; found out that Simaranhons were already familiar of the faith, introduced by the conquistadors since 1574.

1635 - Sebastian Hurtado de Corcuera became Governor-General of the Philippines until 1644. (Why Simara was named after him as Municipality of Corcuera, I do not know!).

1635 - The Augustinian Missionaries arrived in Romblon granted entry through a decree of Bishop Pedro Arce of the Diocese of Cebu.

1644 - Fr. Agustin de San Pedro, popularly known as **El Padre Capitan** arrived in Romblon; ports and churches were among his major accomplishments (security of the inhabitants against the Moros and the spread of Christianity, among other matters).

1726 - A church for Simara was constructed.

1767 - The Moros destroyed completely several settlements in Mindoro, carrying off the inhabitants to be sold as slaves in Jolo.

1821 - Mexico, or New Spain at that time, declared independence from Spain; the Spanish Crown took full control of the Philippine Islands.

1849 - Governor-General Narciso Claveria decreed the use of surnames/family names; for Simaranhons, the family names starting with letter **F** were adopted/used.

In this significant event in our history, these questions are of great importance: What were the names/family names of Simaranhons prior to this decree? Who chose which family name? The answers are precious link in tracing roots and keeping family trees. Example: Based on available data, a certain Santiago clan chose the family names: Fallar, Fallarcuna, Fallaria, Fallarme, Fallarna, and Fallurin. What about the rest, as the Faalas, Fabialas, Facalarins, Fadullos, Fajiculays, Fajilans, Faminianos, Famorcans, Fondevillas, Frueldas, and more...?

1853 - Romblon island-group was under Spanish politico-military government; the title Cabeza de Barangay was changed to Gobernadorcillo. In Simara, the last Cabeza de Barangay was Facundo Fondevilla known as **Cabeza Cundo**, while the first Gobernadorcillo was Matias Fondevilla known as **Capitan Tias**. Matias Fondevilla was the one who named the island Corcuera in honor of Governor-General Corcuera. ( I cannot figure out the compelling reason (s).)

1863 - Queen Isabel II of Spain decreed the establishment of public education system in the Philippines.

1864 - a child, who became municipal executive of Jones (Banton) and Simara, and of Simara as an independent Municipality of Corcuera, was born, named Atanacio by their parents Aniceto Faminiano and Camilia Fallar.

1869 - Suez Canal was opened to navigation which helped cut travel time to Spain from the Philippines and vice versa; many young Filipinos were able to study in Europe, one of them was Jose Rizal.

1872 - a group of Filipinos rose up against the Spanish rule known in history as the Cavite Mutiny. The three priests collectively known as **GOMBURZA** were implicated and executed.

1882 - A church for St. Joseph in Simara was finally completed.

1885 - Simara became a new parochial territory with Rev. Fr. Manuel, a Recollect, as the Parish Priest.

1887 - Jose Rizal published his novel Noli Me Tangere in Berlin, Germany.

1888 (December) Jose Rizal, Marcelo del Pilar, and Gregorio Lopez Jaena founded the La Solidaridad in Madrid, Spain.

1891 - Rizal published his novel El Filibusterismo in Belgium.

1892 - Rizal founded the La Liga Filipina upon his

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return in the Philippines; he was arrested and sent into exile in Dapitan.

1892 - Andres Bonifacio led the founding of the Katipunan.

1896 (August) The Philippine-Spanish war broke out led by Andres Bonifacio in the Manila area, and by Emilio Aguinaldo in the Cavite area. Ramon Blanco was the Spanish Governor-General at that time.

1896 (December) Jose Rizal was executed at Bagumbayan, now Rizal Park in Manila, under Governor-General Camilo Polavieja.

1897 (March) At the Tejeros Convention in Cavite, a revolutionary government was formed with Emilio Aguinaldo elected President.

1897 (May) Sad to say, Andres Bonifacio met his death in Cavite.

1897 (December) An armistice (agreement to stop the war) was negotiated between Emilio Aguinaldo and Governor-General Fernando Primo de Rivera; Aguinaldo agreed to go into exile (Hong Kong), and the Spaniards would pay him 800,000 pesos. Some revolutionaries continued fighting despite the agreement.

1890s Before the end of the Spanish rule in the Philippines, the first Spanish school in Simara opened. Atanacio Fallar Faminiano and Aguedo Fallurin were the first teachers; both taught their students the rudiments of Spanish grammar, history, arithmetic, and the Christian doctrines.

1898 (April) American-Spanish war broke out due to the explosion of USS Maine at the Havana harbor in Cuba. The US President at that time was William McKinley, Jr. The Americans under Commodore George Dewey defeated the Spanish armada under Admiral Patricio Montojo in the Battle of Manila Bay in May, same year. The Spanish Governor-General was Basilio Agustin.

1898 (May) Emilio Aguinaldo returned to the Philippines from Hong Kong, with the help of the Americans to rally support from the Filipinos in their fight against Spain.

1898 (June 12) Emilio Aguinaldo declared Philippine independence from Spain in Kawit, Cavite.

1898 (August) The Spaniards under Governor-General Fermin Jaudenes surrendered to the Americans; Military Governor Wesley Merritt ordered Aguinaldo not to bring his troops to Manila.

1898 (December) The United States and Spain signed the Treaty of Paris turning over the Philippines to the United States; President McKinley was still the US President at that time (1897-1901). General Elwell S. Otis was the US Military Governor in the Philippines (1898-1900).

1899 (January) Malolos Convention in Bulacan - Emilio Aguinaldo as President, proclaimed the First Philippine Republic.

1899 (January) US President William McKinley, Jr. appointed the First Philippine Commission headed by Dr. Jacob G. Schurman (Schurman Commission) to study the situations in the Philippines and to make recommendations. The Commission recognized the determination of the Filipino people to gain independence, and recommended the establishment of civilian domestic government as soon as practical.

1899 (February) The United States did not recognize the Philippine Independence declared by Emilio Aguinaldo; Philippine-American War broke out; Elwell Otis was still the US Military Governor in the Philippines at that time.

1901 (March) While the war was going on, President McKinley appointed the Second Philippine Commission headed by William Howard Taft (Taft Commission) with legislative and limited executive powers.

1901 (March) Emilio Aguinaldo was captured in Palanan, Isabela by General Frederick Funston and his troops; Arthur MacArthur, Jr. was the US Military Governor of the Philippines (1900-1901).

1901 (April) Emilio Aguinaldo swore an oath accepting the authority

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of the United States over the Philippines and pledging his allegiance to the American government.

1901 (July) William Howard Taft, head of the Second Philippine Commission, became the First Civilian Governor of the Philippines (1901-1904). A code of law, judicial system, and municipal and provincial governments were established.

1901 (August) The Thomasites, American teachers, arrived in the Philippines.

A new educational system was introduced with intermediate classes under the supervision of the Bureau of Education of the Philippines. Most prominent among the first intermediate graduates of Simara were: Pablo Fallaria, Miguel Faminiano, Cornelio Fojas, and Teofilo Fondevilla.

1902 - The United States declared the war as officially over, although sporadic fighting continued in some places. Theodore Roosevelt was the President of the United States at that time (1901-1909).

1902 - Philippine Bill of 1902, or the Cooper Act of July 1, 1902, named after its sponsor US Representative Henry A. Cooper of Wisconsin, provided the guidelines for the administration of the civil government for the Philippine Islands.

1904-1906 Numeriano S. Fallarme, a Simaranhon who moved to Sibale, was appointed First Alcalde Mayor of Concepcion; Sibale at that time was part of Mindoro.

1907 - First election to the Philippine Assembly (legislative body, to serve as Lower House; the Philippine Commission as the Upper House). Manuel L. Quezon and Sergio Osmena, Sr. won in this election. James Francis Smith was the US Governor-General at that time (1906-1907).

1907-1909 Evaristo S. Fallarme, brother of Numeriano, was appointed Township President of Concepcion/Sibale.

1907-1918 Simara was a barrio of the Municipality of Romblon. ( I have no data as to who among the Simaranhons played political role during this period).

1916 - Philippine Autonomy Act of 1916, or the Jones Law, authored by William Atkinson Jones of Virginia, Chairman of the US House Committee on Insular Affairs, signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson on August 29, same year. It provided for the election to the Philippine Senate to replace the Philippine Commission, and the Philippine Assembly be renamed House of Representatives; the Governor-General responsible for the Executive Branch was appointed by the US President. The Governor-General at that time was Francis Burton Harrison.

1918 - The Municipality of Jones (Banton) was established, which included Corcuera/Simara. The Municipality of Concepcion/Sibale was annexed to the Province of Romblon through the efforts of Representative Leonardo Festin.

1918-1931 Corcuera/Simara was part of the Municipality of Jones, with Banton as the seat of government.

1918-1919 Atanacio Fallar Faminiano of Corcuera/Simara was the First Municipal President of Jones, through appointment. ( Who appointed him and for what compelling reasons, I have yet to know).

1919-1921 Ponciano S. Fallarme of Sibale, of Simaranhon descent, was elected First Municipal President of Concepcion.

1920-1922 Rufo Faigao, a great son of Banton, was the First Municipal President of Jones, through election.

1923-1925 Atanacio Fallar Faminiano was elected Municipal President of Jones.

1926-1928 Mariano Fonte was elected Municipal President of Jones.

1928-1934 Manuel T. Albero was elected Governor of Romblon.

1929-1931 Fortunato Fadriquela was elected Municipal President of Jones.

1931 - Corcuera/Simara

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became an independent island-municipality, Municipality of Corcuera, by virtue of Executive Order No. 292, Series of 1930. This was through the efforts of then Governor Manuel T. Albero. Dwight Filley Davis was the US Governor-General at that time, and the US President was Herbert Clark Hoover. Inauguration of the new municipality was held on February 3, 1931.

**1931-1935** Atanacio Fallar Faminiano was the first Municipal President of Corcuera/Simara; Andres Fojas as Vice-President; Andres Delfin, appointed as Chief of Police; Gregorio Montesa, Municipal Treasurer; Francisco Fanlo, Sr., as Interim Judge, later appointed as Justice of the Peace.

**1934** - Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934, or the Philippine Independence Act, established the Commonwealth of the Philippines, which at the end of a ten-year transition period would become an independent Republic. It was signed into law on March 24, 1934 by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The Governor-General at that time, the last one, was Frank Murphy.

**1935 (May)** First election for the Commonwealth Government with Manuel L. Quezon and Sergio Osmena, Sr. elected President and Vice-President, respectively.

**1935-1937** Fausto Fallaria was the first Municipal President of Corcuera/Simara under the Commonwealth Government with Diogracias Fajnilan as Vice-President.

**1938-1941** Sergio Fondevilla was the Mayor, and Mauricio Fabito was the Vice-Mayor of Corcuera/Simara when the Special Municipality/Maghali District of Banton, Sibale and Simara Islands was put in place. (What was their role in this so-called Special Municipality?)

**1940** - Banton, Sibale and Simara Islands became the Maghali District/Special Municipality, with Banton as the seat of government.

**1940-1941** Faustino Fabella, Sr., a great son of Banton, was appointed head of the Special Municipality.

**1941 (December 8)** Japan invaded the Philippines under the command of General Masaharu Homma, part of the Second World War.

Simaranhon soldiers during this War: Natalio Fabregas, Sgt. Pacifico Fajilan, Armando Falceso, Major Hidalgo Falceso, Col. Inocencio Fallaria, Cpl. Rufo Fallurin, Florencio Faminiano, Arsenio Faner, among others. (If you know more names, kindly add to this list).

**1942-1947** Martin Fetalino was the Municipal Mayor, and Pablo Frogosa was the Vice-Mayor of Corcuera/Simara during the Second World War. (How does this fit in with the Special Municipality?)

**1942-1947** Eugenio Saluba, a great son of Banton, was appointed head of the Special Municipality.

**1942 (March)** US President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered General Douglas MacArthur to relocate to Australia.

**1942** - Fall of Bataan (April), Major-General Edward P. King surrendered the allied troops to the Japanese; Fall of Corregidor (May), Major-General Jonathan Wainwright IV surrendered the allied troops to the Japanese; the infamous Death March from Bataan to Tarlac took place -- Cpl. Rufo Fallurin did not survive, Sgt. Pacifico Fajilan did ; Japan held control over the Philippines. Prior to these events, President Quezon and Vice-President Osmena left and ended up in the United States with the Commonwealth Government in their hearts and minds.

**1943-1945** Jose P. Laurel, Sr. was the President of the Philippines under the Japanese occupation.

**1944 (October)** General Douglas MacArthur fulfilled his promise, ♦I Shall Return.♦ Vice-President Osmena, now President due to the death of President Quezon in New York in August 1944, was with General MacArthur entering the Philippine Islands through Leyte.

**1944 (October 24)** The battle known in world history

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as the Battle of Sibuyan Sea took place between the Imperial Japanese Navy and the US warplanes/bombers in the waters near the islands of Sibale, Banton, and Simara. The battleship Musashi of Japan sank in the waters of Sibuyan Sea. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1945 (March 12)</strong> Battle of Simara in Tanro-aw Hill, Barangay San Vicente, between the US/Filipino soldiers and the Japanese.</p><p> </p><p><strong>1945 (March 20)</strong> Liberation of Simara Island from Japanese occupation.</p><p> </p><p><strong>1945 (September)</strong> Japan surrendered to the USA. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1946 (July 4)</strong> Philippine Independence Day from the USA; Harry Truman was the US President at that time. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1947</strong> - Romblon became a regular province; the Maghali District/Special Municipality became separate municipalities. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1948-1951</strong> Anastacio Falejo of Barangay San Vicente became the Municipal Mayor with Pablo Frogosa, his second term, as the Vice-Mayor. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1947</strong> - President Manuel Roxas was elected President of the First Independent Philippine Republic with Elpidio Quirino as Vice-President. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1952-1955</strong> Mateo Ferry, Sr. of Barangay Ilijan was elected Municipal Mayor and Fausto Falculan as Vice-Mayor. Fr. Buenaventura Rimon was the Parish Priest of Corcuera/Simara at that time (1953-1963). </p><p> </p><p><strong>1954 (December 30)</strong> The Simaranhon Club, which became the Simaranhon Club Philippines Inc., was founded by a group of Simaranhon residents and students in Manila, at the residence of Col. & Mrs. Inocencio F. Fallaria in Caloocan City. </p><p> </p><p><strong>The pioneering officers:</strong></p><ul><li>President - Restituto Fallaria</li><li>Vice-President - Romulo Falqueza</li><li>Secretary - Consolacion Famorcan</li><li>Asst. Secretary - Thelma Fondevilla</li><li>Treasurer - Estela Fondevilla</li><li>Asst. Treasurer - Cesar Fajilan</li><li>Auditor - Leodegario Fortu</li><li>Business Manager - Jose Fondevilla</li><li>Press Relations Officers: Alfredo Perez, Jr. & Nestor Faminiano</li><li>Peace Officers: Andresito Fojas & Sofronio Falculan</li><li>Board of Directors: Andres Delfin, Hidalgo Falceso, Jose Falceso, Nicasio Falcutila, Custodio Fampulme, and Loving Fetalvero, Sr.</li><li>Adviser - Felipe Fondevilla</li></ul><p> </p><p><strong>1955 (January)</strong> The Simaranhon Club was formally inducted at Villamor Hall, Morayta St., Sampaloc, Manila, with Dr. Jose P. de Leon as inducting officer. </p><p> </p><p><strong>Its history saw also the following as:</strong></p><ul><li>President - Custodio Fampulme, Major Hidalgo Falceso, Severino Falculan</li><li>Dr. Ermino Famodulan; Severino Falculan was a prominent figure of the Club for a long time, performing his best.</li><li>Adviser - Col. Inocencio Fallaria</li><li>National Vice-President & National Director,</li><li>Youth & Student Affairs Directorate - Atty. Johmy Fajilan </li></ul><p><br /><strong>1956-1959</strong> Vidal Fallaria became the Municipal Mayor with Serviliano Falculan as the Vice-Mayor.</p><p> </p><p><strong>1958</strong> - Pablo Fallaria conceived a secondary school for Simaranhon students which gave life to the Corcuera Institute in 1959, but met her end soon.</p><p> </p><p><strong>1959</strong> - The Simaranhon Club caused the construction of the elevated altar of St. Joseph the Worker Parish Church and general repair of the church financed through contributions from Simaranhons and friends. Fr. Buenaventura Rimon was the Parish Priest at that time. </p><p> </p><p><strong>1960 (February )</strong> Corcuera Academy was born; stockholders: Senen Fanlo, Manuel Albero, Conrado Fajarillo, Josefino Fajilago, Santiago Fajilago, Anioneva Falceso, Benjamin Fallaria, Arcelito Fallurin, Emilio Fallurin, Amador Faminiano, Ilustre Faminiano, Troadio Famorcan, Ricardo Fojas, Magnifico Fondevilla, Pacifico Fondevilla, Aguinaldo Fortu, Felisa Perez, and Rudolph Yap.

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1960-1963 Ernesto Falculan and Leoncio Fajilan were the Municipal Mayor and the Vice- Mayor of Corcuera/Simara at that time, respectively.

1960 - Ricarte Fabella, a son of Banton, was the first Principal of Corcuera Academy (1960-1964).

1962 - President Diosdado Macapagal changed Philippine Independence Day celebration from July 4 to June 12. He also visited Simara in 196?; His daughter, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo visited Simara also in ? (kindly supply the dates).

1964-1971 Senen Fanlo was elected Municipal Mayor with Jose Minon as the Vice- Mayor for term 1964-1967, and Nicolas Fajarillo as Vice-Mayor for term 1968-1971.

1965 - Pioneering graduates (15) alumni passed the portals of Corcuera Academy, a historic event in the field of education for Simara. Mr. Cirilo I. Ilio was the Principal (1965-1969) during this historic event.

1970 - A vigorous fund raising campaign was undertaken by the Simaranhon Club during the Presidency of Ermino Famodulan for the reconstruction of the St. Joseph the Worker Parish Church. This was the last year of Fr. Edgar Buncalan as Parish Priest in Simara.

1970-1972 Dely de Leon was the Principal of Corcuera Academy, the first Simaranhon to hold the said position.

1972 (September 21) President Ferdinand E. Marcos placed the Philippines under Martial Law.

1972-1980 Josefino Fajilago, Sr. was the Municipal Mayor, and Vicente Fruelda was the Vice-Mayor.

1973-1975 Ortenciano Festejo, a faculty member, became the Principal of Corcuera Academy.

1976-1982 Edwin Fetalino, Corcuera Academy Class of 1966, became Principal of his alma mater, the first alumnus to hold such honor.

1976 - The Simaranhon Club initiated a Balik-Simara Program to attend the blessing of the reconstructed Church and also the town fiesta; a great number of Simaranhons, including my wife now Mila, went home on board a chartered ship MV Manuel; Col. Fallaria visited Simara too after many years of absence. Fr. Norberto Costo was the Parish Priest at that time. Dr. Ermino Famodulan and Mr. Severino Falculan were the President and Vice President of the Simaranhon Club respectively at that time.

1977 - Mr. Severino Falculan took over the reins of the Club; Johmy Fajilan was elected National Vice President and held the position of National Director, Youth and Student Affairs Directorate.

1977 - The Corcuera Academy Alumni Association (CAAA) was founded with the following alumni holding their respective positions:

- President - Johmy F. Fajilan, Class 1966
- First VP - Leonito F. Fruelda, Class 1966
- Second VP - Adelaida F. Fallurin-Fajilago, Class 1965
- Secretary - Rosemarie V. Fondevilla, Class 1967
- Associate Secretary - Ophelia F. Fajilan, Class 1967
- Treasurer - Nancy F. Festin, Class 1967
- Associate Treasurer - Clodesindes F. Fabiala, Class 1968
- Business Manager - Esmeraldo F. Fallar, Jr., Class 1966
- Associate Bus. Manager - Melvin F. Factor, Class 1976
- Public Information Officer (PIO) - Gilbert F. Fajiculay, Class 1967
- Associate Public Info Officer - Jose Irving F. Fajilan, Class 1967
- Auditor - Pacifico F. Fajilan, Class 1966
- Associate Auditor - Bibiano M. Fanlo, Class 1966
- Secretariat:
  - Executive Secretary - Lucy F. Faminiano, Class 1968
  - Asst. Exec. Secretary - Daisy M. Faminiano, Class 1967

1979 (April 28) The Simaranhon Club observed its Silver Jubilee in Simara.

- Awardees: Exemplary Service - Dr. Restituto Fallaria
- Most Outstanding Simaranhon - Col. Inocencio Fallaria
- Outstanding Simaranhons: Engr.

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Gilbert F. Fajiculay, Inventor Peping F. Fajiculay, Domingo Falamig, David Falqueza, Dr. Ermino Famodulan

1981 - Martial Law was lifted.

1980-1983 Senen Fanlo was the Mayor, and Nicolas Fajarillo was the Vice-Mayor of Corcuera/Simara.

1981 (February) Mabini Barangay High School, now Mabini National High School, was granted permit to operate. The historic efforts of the late Diosporo Falculan, educator Franklin Falceso, and their companions deserved a page in Simara history. In 2002, Principal Linda Fadriquelan was chosen as a recipient of **Dangal Ng Bayan Award** sponsored by the Civil Service Commission; the awarding ceremony was held in Malacanang with President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo handing the award.

1981 - Golden Jubilee Celebration of Corcuera (1931-1981), and Feast of St. Joseph the Worker (April 28-May 01) managed by the Simaranhon Club led by Atty. Johmy Fajilan and assisted by Dr. Ermino Famodulan. Senen Fanlo was the Municipal Mayor at that time with Nicolas Fajarillo as the Vice-Mayor. Father Norberto Costo was the Parish Priest.

Let me quote Dr. Ermino Famodulan, **As usual, the top grosser in the Club's fund raising campaign is Col. Inocencio F. Fallaria who had pledged to dedicate his time, talent and treasure (TTT) for the upliftment of our people. As Adviser of the Club, he had always that devotion to love his townmates because to him, services to his fellowmen is service to God.**

1983- 200? Ramelia Festejo, Corcuera Academy Class 1966 and younger sister of Ortenciano Festejo became Principal, writing a page in the history of this high school as first Simaranhon siblings to hold such distinction. Moreover, Ramelia Festejo and Edwin Fetalino were high school classmates who, both, became Principal, first in our alma mater's history.

1983 (August) Opposition leader Benigno **Ninoy** Aquino met his death at MIA upon his return from long absence, living abroad. Manila International Airport (MIA) is now NAIA, acronym for Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

1986 - **People's Power Revolution**, a bloodless revolt against the government that defined the end of President Marcos era; Corazon Aquino, the wife of Ninoy, became President.

1992-1993 SY Mabini Barangay High School became what is now Mabini National High School.

? - 1995 Nicolas Fajarillo (kindly specify his positions/dates; thanks...)

1995-2004 Bibiano M. Fanlo, Corcuera Academy Class of 1966, was the Municipal Mayor for three (3) consecutive terms: The Vice-Mayors were: Richard Fruelda, CA Class of 1970, (1995-1998); Ada Fronda (1998-2001); Richard Fruelda (2001-2004).

1996 (June) Corcuera Academy became Corcuera Municipal High School. The Principal then was Ramelia Festejo-Fajilagot.

1997 (August) Corcuera Municipal High School became what is now Corcuera National High School during the incumbency of Mayor Bibiano Fanlo, with the help of the late Mayonita Fajilan-Faminiano, Division Supts. Joseph Fadri, and Dinah Mindo.

2001 - President Joseph Estrada was replaced by Vice-President Gloria Macapagal- Arroyo as President of the Philippines.

2001 (September 11) Enemies of the United States of America attacked the World Trade Center in New York City, and the Pentagon. From then on, the fight against terrorism has been the concern of many peoples, including the Filipino people! Of course, Simaranhons are affected too as we are in various places in the Philippines and worldwide.

2002 Orville F. Fajilan, CNHS Class of 1999, while studying at Batangas State University, Batangas City, initiated/designed a website,



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[www.simara.islander.homestead.com/fajilan.html](http://www.simara.islander.homestead.com/fajilan.html), concerning Simara, especially the youth.

**2002** Joey Fallurin Fajilago, son of ex- Mayor Josefino Fondevilla Fajilago and CA Class of 1965 member Adelaida Falceso Fallurin designed and developed a website, [www.simara.com](http://www.simara.com), dedicated to the people of Simara Island, Romblon, Philippines.

Engr. Gilbert Falceso Fajiculay played a significant role in this initiative by encouraging his nephews and nieces with computer engineering/science background -- Joey and sister Josie, Jay Fajiculay Fajarillo, Atet and sister Yeyeth, among others to design, develop one. He is also the number one sponsor of the site and supporter in all its aspects.

**2004-2007** Marlon ♦Dodong♦ Fojas, CA Class of 1975, was the Municipal Mayor with Ada Fronda as the Vice-Mayor.

**2004** (May) Fr. Virgil Falceso Fabriquel, a son of Simara, became the Parish Priest of the St. Joseph the Worker Parish. As of date, one, among many, of his accomplishments was the renovation of the St. Joseph the Worker Parish Church.

Activities for the well-being of his Parish, parishioners and of Simara are his primary agenda. The aftermath of Typhoon Unding in November of said year saw in him the inherent ability to coordinate and network with fellow Simaranhons and others for the greater good of his Parish, parishioners, and beyond.

(Simara has two (2) parishes; the other one, St. Jude Thaddeus, is based in Barangay Alegria).

**2004** (August) The Simara Island Networking Optimism: Presence Around the Globe Associating Simaranhons Anywhere (SINO: PAG-ASA) came to exist as a networking tool among Simaranhons and friends wherever they are -- in Simara, anywhere in the Philippines and worldwide. Mila Fajiculay-Fruelda, Corcuera Academy Class 1971, is the proponent.

**2006** - The 75th Foundation Anniversary of the Municipality of Corcuera (1931-2006); the Municipal Mayor was Marlon ♦Dodong♦ Fojas with Ada Fronda as the Vice-Mayor.

**2006** - (current) Melchor Mirasol Famorcan, Corcuera Academy Class of 1992 became the Principal of Corcuera Academy, now Corcuera National High School. This school has garnered numerous awards both in Provincial and Regional competitions since he became Principal; some awards are ♦first time ... in the history of the school.♦

**2007** - (current) Eddie Fondevilla Mazo, Corcuera Academy Class of 1983, was elected Municipal Mayor with Marlon ♦Dodong♦ Fojas as Vice-Mayor. Interestingly, Orlando Fajarillo, an independent candidate, won a place for the Sangguniang Bayan.

**2007** (September) Former President Joseph Estrada was convicted of plunder by the Sandiganbayan Special Division headed by Teresita de Castro.

**2007** (October) President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo granted executive clemency to former President Estrada.

**2007** (October) The Rice Christmas Gift for Simara concept of Nilda Fondevilla Famorcan Telfezian of California now called RANAS & Beyond! saw its beginning. The proponent is also the coordinator at the West Coast of the United States and for the East Coast is Billy Falceso Fajiculay, CA Class 1969, of Spring Valley, New York.

**2008** (November 4) Presidential election is historical in itself; on this date, the United States of America and the World witnessed the victory of US Senator Barack Obama over his rival Senator John McCain. What made this event more historical/historic than previous ones is the fact that President-elect Obama is a son of a black father from Kenya, Africa and a white mother from the State of Kansas, United States of America, earning him the historic honor and opportunity/reality as the first black President-elect of the United States. Hawaii is his birthplace.

**2008** (November) The Simaranhon

## A Glimpse...!

Written by ambring

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Club based in the National Capital Region (NCR) was reorganized with Engr. Jennifer Falculan Famodulan, CA Class of 1977, elected Chairperson. Let me put here Manila, Philippines, for common knowledge. </p><p> </p><p>Interesting to note that Engr. Famodulan is a niece of two Simaranhon Club Presidents namely: Mr. Severino Falculan and Dr. Ermino Famodulan. </p><p> </p><p>Fulbert Gil ♦Atet♦ Fajiculay Fajarillo, the current Press Relations Officer, designed a website, [www.simaranhon.com](http://www.simaranhon.com), for the Simaranhon Club. </p><p> </p><p>Information had it that the reorganization of the Simaranhon Club was brought to light by Architect Eufrocino Falceso Delfin, CA Class 1966, and other Simaranhons. </p><p> </p><p><strong>2009 (January 20)</strong> The historic inauguration of Barack Obama as President of the United States of America, the first African American, the current and 44th President in the history of the United States. </p><p> </p><p><strong>2009 (February)</strong> 78th Foundation Anniversary of Corcuera as a Municipality with a celebration spearheaded by the Local Government under Mayor Eddie Fondevilla Mazo. </p><p> </p><p>-----</p><p> </p><p><strong>2010</strong> - Looking forward to the Golden Foundation Anniversary of our Alma Mater -- Corcuera Academy/Corcuera Municipal High School/now Corcuera National High School!</p><p> </p><p><strong>2010</strong> - Let us see what comes election time! </p><p> </p><p><strong>2011</strong> - The 80th (1931-2011) Foundation Anniversary of our Municipality!</p><p> </p><p>As to name, Municipality of Simara, hopefully!<br />And since poblacion is a common noun, let us transform<br />Barangay Poblacion into a historic name as Barangay Fondevilla! </p><p>Barangay Fondevilla, Municipality of Simara! </p><p> </p><p>...</p><p> </p><p>This is only a glimpse. I am inviting you all to add significant data to this continuing process -- Simara history!</p><p> </p><p>\_\_\_\_\_ </p><p> </p><p><strong>Sources:</strong></p><ul><li>Fr. Fabriquel, Virgil F. Article on The St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Corcuera</li><li>Engr. Fajiculay, Gilbert F. A Coin In The Sand</li><li>Fajilan, Teresita Eden F. Sgt. Pacifico Fajilan - The Journey Of An Icon</li><li>Atty. Fallarme, Eufonio, M. The History of the Fallarme Clan of Sibale</li><li>Dr. Famodulan, Ermino F. A Brief History of the Simaranhon Club; Simara♦s Historical Resume (Souvenir Program on the Golden Jubilee (1931-1981) Celebration of Corcuera and Town Fiesta 1981</li><li>The Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia -- Google Search</li><li><http://www.sanrokan.com>; <http://www.sibale.com>; <http://www.simara.com></li><li>Fruelda, Mila Fajiculay ♦ Our Conversations♦</li><li>All other sources... </li></ul><p> </p><p><strong>Related Topics:</strong></p><ul><li><a href="forum/viewtopic.php?f=19&t=79" target="\_blank">Comments/suggestions</a> </li></ul>