

THE DEVELOPMENT AND PERSISTENCE OF A RURAL CRAFT THROUGH  
HISTORICAL CHANGES IN MARKET ENVIRONMENT  
A CASE STUDY OF BASKETRY IN BARANGAY BICAHAN,  
ANTEQUERA, BOHOL, PHILIPPINES

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A Thesis

Presented to

the Graduate Faculty

College of Arts and Sciences

University of San Carlos

Cebu City, Philippines

---

In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

MASTER OF ARTS IN ANTHROPOLOGY

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by

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May 2001

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This thesis entitled "THE DEVELOPMENT AND PERSISTENCE OF A RURAL CRAFT THROUGH HISTORICAL CHANGES IN MARKET ENVIRONMENT A CASE STUDY OF BASKETRY IN BARANGAY BICAHAN, ANTEQUERA, BOHOL, PHILIPPINES" prepared and submitted by ESTELA OCAMPO-FERNANDEZ in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree MASTER OF ARTS IN ANTHROPOLOGY has been examined and is recommended for acceptance and approval for ORAL EXAMINATION

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dr. Harold Olofson, Ph D , my adviser, for his patience and dedication  
Fiscalina Nolasco, Aloysius Canete, and Elizabeth M Remedio, the members  
of the thesis committee and panel of examiners, for the invaluable suggestions that  
greatly helped in refining this research

The Fellowship Committee of the University of the Philippines in the Visayas,  
for the local fellowship grant

Joycie and Ed Alegre and Ricky Jose, from whose friendships grew the  
interest in cultural research

Estelita G Ocampo, the researcher's mother, for assistance in the last leg  
of this research

The basketweavers of Barangay Bicañan, for the warm friendships

Friends and colleagues, especially Roy and Mayette, for words of  
encouragement and occasional feedback

Raymund, Linya and Isagani, for waiting patiently

*Daghang Salamat!*

ESTELA OCAMPO-FERNANDEZ

## ABSTRACT

This research examines an indigenous craft within the context of expanding world capitalism as this reaches the countryside of developing countries. It focuses on change in basket design as an indicator of change in other factors related to basket production in Antequera, Bohol, Philippines. These factors are studied within temporal periods, namely a pre-intervention phase, a government intervention phase which came with a peak of basket exportation, and a phase of decline of basket production for export. The research problem is to determine the dynamic interplay among inputs, household production, outputs (especially basket designs), and the market.

The study covers the time period 1900 up to the present. Fieldwork methods included participant observation, key informant interviews, and documentation of basketry items, designs and technological processes through still photographs, digital imaging and drawn illustrations.

The study supports the hypothesis that changes in basket design did accompany changes in production, market demand, distribution and end-use through the three periods. On the other hand, the continuation through the three periods of certain traditional baskets and their designs also indicated the persistence of an agricultural way of life. The study leads finally to recommendations which might be useful to the local Bohol basketmakers for sustaining and revitalizing their craft.



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