

Invitation and Rationale of the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit of the Mindanao Peoples' Peace Movement (MPPM)

Datu Dikal Cultural Center, Lamitan, Basilan, December 12-17, 2006

Thursday 12 April 2007, by [MPPM](#) (Date first published: October 2006).

Contents

- [An Invitation and a Rationale](#)
- [Program of the 4th Mindanao](#)

Theme: "Intensifying our Joint Efforts for the Realization of the

Right to Self-Determination of Peoples"

An Invitation and a Rationale of the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit

We warmly invite you to the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit on December 12-17, 2006 in Lamitan, Basilan where some five hundred (500) human rights, justice and peace advocates from all over Mindanao, Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-Tawi and Palawan (MinSuBaTaPa) as well as guests from Manila and overseas will gather to celebrate, deliberate and concretize plans for the building of a truly just and peaceful society in MinSuBaTaPa. Anchored on the theme, "Intensifying our Joint Efforts for the Realization of the Right to Self-Determination of Peoples," the Summit will discuss ways of realizing the right to self-determination of the tri-people of Mindanao, i.e. the Katawhang Lumad or Indigenous Peoples, the Bangsamoro and the Mindanao Migrants or their Descendants (MMD). The tri-people approach intends to find specific solutions to problems peculiar to each people but said efforts should contribute to the overarching and transcendental goal of unity of all Mindanaons in the attainment of **justpeace** (a term to describe peace based on justice) in MinSuBaTaPa and the world over.

Mindanao Peoples' Peace Movement (MPPM): Sponsor of the 4th Peace Summit

The biennial summits are under the sponsorship of the Mindanao Peoples' Peace Movement (MPPM), a convergence for the unity of the grassroots tri-people (Katawhang Lumad, Bangsamoro, Mindanao Migrants or their Descendants) and a multi-sectoral alliance/network/coalition (ANC) of over one hundred human rights and peace groups, non-government and peoples' organizations, religious groups and academic institutions in MinSuBaTaPa committed to the search for lasting peace everywhere. MPPM had its beginnings in 1999 when several groups met at Southern Christian College (SCC) in Midsayap, Cotabato to plan a Mindanao-wide caravan for human rights and peace. These groups then formed the KASAMAKA, later dubbed the Mindanao Peace Movement or MPM which organized the 1st Mindanao Peace Summit on June 26-28, 2000 at Brokenshire Resource Center in Davao City. In that Summit, MPM officially became the Mindanao Peoples' Peace

Movement (MPPM) and it highlighted the tri-people character of the organization. The 2nd Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit was held on December 17-20, 2002 at Southern Christian College and the 3rd Peace Summit on December 19-22, 2004 at Lake Sebu, South Cotabato. MPPM is a convenor of the Mindanao PeaceWeavers (MPW), an alliance of major coalitions and groupings of human rights and peace groups in Mindanao. MPPM relates with and is open to work with all groups from all political persuasions and is committed to peaceful ways of resolving conflicts in Mindanao and Sulu and elsewhere.

A Quick Look at the Events Leading to the 1st Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit

As an organization, MPPM developed as a response to the 1997 and 1999 wars and especially Pres. Estrada's Total War against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in June 2000. The 1st Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit held in Davao City on June 26-28 was called precisely to try to find ways of responding to the many terrible consequences of the devastating wars in Mindanao. In addition to the normal responses such as providing food, clothing and shelter for the displaced families and communities which many of our member organizations such as the Tri-people Organization against Disasters (TRIPOD) were doing as well as human rights and peace education and advocacy such as those done by Sumpay Mindanao and Southern Christian College, the idea of support to the peace process and open and direct links with the contending parties became an urgent necessity. Also, the mission of strengthening the organizational capacity of the tri-people to equip them in the pursuit of their right to self-determination has become a guiding principle for the MPPM.

The 2nd and 3rd Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit

While pursuing normal activities of peace education and advocacy as well as relief to war victims, we have decided to focus on finding a strategic solution to the war in Mindanao by concentrating on the so-called "Bangsamoro problem." In consultation with the Bangsamoro civil society particularly the Bangsamoro Consultative Peoples' Assembly headed by Prof. Abhoud Syed M. Lingga, MPPM decided to adopt the Bangsamoro call for the holding of a "United Nations-Supervised Referendum on Political Options in the Bangsamoro Areas of Mindanao" as a "Platform of Hope" for Lasting Peace in Mindanao. The formal launch of the campaign was the adoption of a Declaration calling for such a Referendum during the 2nd Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit held at Southern Christian College in December of 2002.

The questions and apprehensions of the Katawhang Lumad on such a referendum became the focus of discussions in subsequent meetings that culminated in the 3rd Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit held in Lake Sebu, South Cotabato in December 2004. With clarifications made and questions answered, the 3rd Peace Summit delegates reiterated the call for the holding of such a Referendum. This was buttressed by the decision to submit once again to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the MILF Peace Panels the slightly-revised proposal for adoption by both Panels as part of the peace agreement. This was done in January 2005.

Objectives of the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit in Lamitan, Basilan

At the end of the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit when the General Assembly, the highest governing body of MPPM also meets, we shall have:

1. Listened to the various inputs on the theme from a former President and the Chair of the Moro National Liberation front as well as other speakers;
2. Heard updates on the various peace negotiations especially those in Mindanao;

3. Deliberated on the various options for peace being presented in the UN-Managed Referendum on Political Options in the Bangsamoro Areas of Mindanao and Palawan and the Entire Island Provinces of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi;
4. Attended various workshops on the theme and other related issues;
5. Approved the Constitution and By-Laws of MPPM;
6. Elected its leadership for the next biennium (December 2006-December 2008)
7. Deliberated and approved the program of action for the next biennium as a necessary building block to achieve peace in MinSuBaTaPa.

Why Hold the Summit in Basilan?

Basilan has had its share of headline news especially those having to do with the Abu Sayyaf kidnappings as well as skirmishes between the MNLF and the GRP. Lamitan especially is famous for the “escape” from military dragnet of the Abu Sayyaf members who were clearly trapped in a hospital there. So why hold the Summit in Basilan? Is it a safe place for all?

For one, we would like to tell the whole world that every place in Mindanao is safe if all sectors unite to make it possible. The civil society, business, the military and the government in Basilan are being challenged, mobilized and engaged to ensure that Basilan and all areas in Mindanao, for that matter, would be safe when all sectors work together in perfect harmony.

Second, Basilan is part of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and is definitely part of the Bangsamoro Areas to be covered by the MPPM proposal for the Government to hold a United Nations-Managed Referendum on Political Options in Bangsamoro Areas of Mindanao and Palawan and the Entire Island Provinces of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-tawi. The area specification is a product of the Third Peace Summit in 2004.

Finally, we would like to contribute to the economic development of the area by encouraging Filipinos and foreigners to visit Basilan and other Bangsamoro Areas in MinSuBaTaPa. Basilan and other ARMM and many other Bangsamoro Areas have tourism potentials that when fully developed will surely redound to the economic and peoples’ uplift in said areas. Basilan products/crafts will be displayed and sold during the Peace Summit.

How about the cost?

Participating fee is P1500 covering meals, simple lodging and conference materials. Housing will be in public schools, in homes and tents for those have them. Participants are expected to bring malongs and personal toiletries. All travel costs and lodging expenses especially for those in hotels/hostels will be borne by the participants. A mandatory registration fee for all is P100 (US/Euro 100 for foreign friends, if possible).

Who will participate? How does one register for the Summit and the Caravan?

In general, participants will come from member organizations of MPPM. The others will be potential members and observers from MinSuBaTaPa, from Manila and from overseas who share or identify with the vision, mission, and goals of MPPM. Those intending to register should send an email to mppm4peace@yahoo.com and al_carumba@yahoo.com. They can also send a fax to SCC Telefax (064) 229-8753 or Sumpay Mindanao Fax (063) 223-3658.

How does one get to Lamitan, Basilan?

Basilan is accessible only by boat from Zamboanga City. Fastcrafts and other vessels ply the Zamboanga-Isabela (Basilan) or Lamitan route almost every hour. For those coming from Central Mindanao, the best ride is through ship from Polloc leaving every Sunday at 10 a.m. to Zamboanga. Delegates from Southern Mindanao can take a boat from Davao or GenSan. Those from Northern Mindanao can take a bus to Zamboanga City. People from Manila can fly direct to Zamboanga City where there are daily flights of PAL and other airlines. Participants are encouraged to join a "Mindanao Peoples' Caravan for Human Rights and Peace" which starts on December 9 with a forum and overnight stops in Midsayap/Cotabato City for some and in Iligan City for others where a concert will be held, in Pagadian City for a Rally on December 10th at 4 p.m., ending in Zamboanga on Dec. 11, 2006 at a Forum for Human Rights & Peace at 6 p.m. The Caravan is designed to mark the 58th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to drum up support for the Summit and also enable participants to save on travel costs by traveling together. The camaraderie that may be built can be a sound basis for long-lasting partnerships for peace in MinSuBaTaPa.

A Word on Our Hosts, Cooperating Groups and Supporters

The 4th Summit will be hosted by MPPM, The Municipality of Lamitan, Basilan and the Young Moro Professionals of Basilan in cooperation with Kahapan Foundation and Anak Mindanao Party-List whose representative in Congress is Hon. Rep. Mujiv S. Hataman. The 4th MPPM Summit receives the usual support from Sumpay Mindanao, Tri-people Organization against Disasters and Southern Christian College in Midsayap, Cotabato. The Honorable Roderick H. Furigay, town mayor of Lamitan is looking forward to welcoming all the participants and guests of the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit. MPPM and the host groups are expecting full support from the Provincial Government headed by the Honorable Wahab M. Akbar and from the Honorable Rep. Gerry Salapuddin of the Lone District of Basilan.

MPPM as an Alliance/Network/Coalition (ANC) and Its Member Organizations

As an alliance/network/coalition (ANC), MPPM conducts its own activities such as summits, conferences, seminars and forums on various human rights and peace subjects as well as does its own lobby and advocacy work. However, the main bulk of the work of MPPM is carried out by its member-organizations. They do various types of work but carry them out on behalf of MPPM as well. This enables MPPM to work in practically all areas of MinSuBaTaPa. It is beginning to relate and build groups in Asia, Europe and North America.

The Three Challenges and the Five-Fold Tasks of MPPM (AEIOU)

Our view is that MPPM has to meet three challenges in order to strategically address the issue of peace in Mindanao. The first is the challenge of molding a core of leaders to do human rights and peace work for and with the tri-people of Mindanao: the Katawhang Lumad or Indigenous Peoples, the Bangsamoro, and the Mindanao Migrants or their Descendants (MMD). The second is the challenge of popularizing the various strategic political options for peace. The third is the challenge of building a culture of peace thus infusing the values of human rights, peace and mutual understanding in the school curricula, in the church and mosque study programs, in the various professions, in business, the military and the police and in the communities where people live. MPPM has to pursue five tasks: awareness-building, empowering, influencing, organizing and uniting (AEIOU) the people for the common work of building a just and lasting peace in Mindanao, Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-tawi and Palawan (MinSuBaTaPa) and the world over. We call on all peoples to help build with us a new future for our children and our children's children.

Program of the 4th Mindanao Peoples' Peace Summit

December 12-17, 2006

Datu Dizal Cultural Center, Lamitan, Basilan, Mindanao, Philippines

Sponsor: The Mindanao Peoples' Peace Movement (MPPM)

Theme: "Intensifying our Joint Efforts for the Realization of the
Right to Self-Determination of Peoples"

FINAL PROGRAMME

Day 1- Tuesday, December 12, 2006

8:30 - 9:30 Assemble at Zamboanga City Pier (Fastcrafts sail as
early as 6:30 a.m.)

9:45 - 11:00 Journey together to Isabel City, Basilan
(Aleson Shipping)

8:00 - 12:00 NN Arrival, Registration & Housing of Participants at the
Site in Lamitan, Basilan

12:00 - 3:00 PM Welcome Luncheon/Prayers/Registration and Housing

3:00 - 6:00 PM Formal Opening Ceremonies

I. Tri-people Prayers

II. Welcome Addresses:

The Honorable Roderick H. Furigay
Municipal Mayor, Lamitan, Basilan

The Honorable Wahab M. Akbar
Governor, Basilan Province

The Honorable Zaldy Uy Ampatuan
Governor, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

III. Summit Overview

Alvaro O. Senturias, Jr
Chairman, Mindanao Peoples' Peace Movement (MPPM)

IV. Keynote Speeches:

Her Excellency Corazon C. Aquino (invited)
President, Republic of the Philippines, 1986-1992
(to be represented by Congressman Benigno "Noy" C. Aquino III)

His Excellency Teofisto T. Guingona, Jr.
Former Vice-President of the Philippines

6:00 - 6:30 Prayer/Magrib

6:30-7:30 Dinner

7:30 - 9:00 The Philippine Human Rights Situation

Atty. Jose Manuel Mamauag
to represent Dr. Purificacion V. Quisumbing

Chair, Commission on Human Rights, Republic of the Philippines

Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, Jr.
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines (CSAFP)

Reactors: Representatives of PAHRA and KARAPATAN

Day 2, Wednesday, December 13, 2006

6:30 - 7:30 AM Breakfast

7:30 - 8:00 Morning Prayer & Recapitulation/Announcements

8:00 - 12:00 Insights and Hindsight from the Architects of the
1996 GRP-MNLF FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT

The Honorable Eduardo Ermita (invited)
Executive Secretary and Key Person in the Negotiations for the 1996 Final Peace Agreement
between the GRP and MNLF

The Honorable Prof. Nur Misuari
Chairman, Moro National Liberation Front Former Governor , ARMM Signatory, 1996 Peace
Agreement

Reactors: Mindanao PeaceWeavers and InPeace

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch & Dhuhor Prayer

1:30 - 6:30 Updates on the Peace Process

a) Undersecretary Nabil Tan to represent Secretary Jesus G. Dureza
Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP)

b) Representative, Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)

c) Representative, Rebolusyunaryong Partido ng Manggagawa-Mindanao (RPMM)

d) Representative, Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic

Front (CPP-NPA-NDF)

6:00 - 6:30 Prayers

6:30 - 7:30 Dinners

7:30 - 10:00 Presentation: Revisiting the History of Mindanao
and AKMK/SCC Peace Band

Day 3, Thursday, December 14, 2006

6:30- 7:30AM Breakfast

7:30 - 8:00 Morning Prayer & Recapitulation/Announcements

8:00-12:00 Perspectives on the Right to Self-Determination (RSD)

Self-determination of Peoples from the Perspective of the United Nations

Ms. Vicki Tauli Corpuz
Chairperson
Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples
the United Nations

Self-determination of Peoples from the Perspective of the Bangsamoro

Dr. Hamid Aminoddin D. Barra
Mindanao State University
Marawi City

Self-determination of Peoples from the Perspective of the Katawhang Lumad

Datu Migketay Victorino L. Saway
Talaandig
Secretary-General, Panagtagbo

International Law Perspective on the Right to Self-Determination

Professor H. Harry L. Roque, Jr.
Director, Institute for International Legal Studies
College of Law, University of the Philippines

12:00-1:30 Lunch/Dhuhor Prayers

1:30-4:00 Tri-People Workshops on the Right to
Self-Determination of Peoples

4:00 - 6:00 Free time (Visits to nearby touristic spots c/o Provincial
and Town Tourism Offices)

6:00 - 6:30 Prayers

6:30 - 7:30 Dinners

7:30 - 10:00 Presentation: MPPM through the Years with SCC
Peace Band/AKMK Band

Day 4, Friday, December 15, 2006

6:30- 7:30AM Breakfast

7:30 – 8:00 Recapitulation/Announcements

8:00 – 12:00 Democratic Political Options for Peace in Mindanao
and Sulu

Over all Lecture on Peace and the Millenium Development Goals

Prof. Leonor Magtolis Briones

National College for Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG), University of the Philippines

On An Enhanced Autonomy for the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

Atty. Randolph Parcasio

Former Executive Secretary, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

Federal Bangsamoro State within a Federal Republic of the Philippines

Dr. Macapado A. Muslim

Chancellor, Mindanao State University

General Santos City

On an Independent Bangsamoro State

Ms. Amina T. Rasul

Lead Convenor, Philippine Council on Islam and Democracy (PCID)

On a UN-Managed Referendum: A Democratic and Peaceful Way of Resolving the Conflict in
Moroland

Prof. Abhoud Syed Mansur Lingga

Executive Director, Institute of Bangsamoro Studies (IBS)

12:00NN-1:30PM Lunch and Prayers

1:30-3:30 Workshops and Presentation of Pre-Summit
Results/Resolutions

3:30-6:30 MPPM Organizational Matters - Workshop & Plenary

MPPM Work from Dec. 2004- Dec. 2006: A Summary
Report

Amabella L. Carumba

Secretary-General, MPPM

6:00 – 6:30 Prayers

6:30- 7:30 Dinners

8:00-10:00 continuation of MPPM organizational matters

Day 5- Saturday, December 16, 2006

6:30- 7:30AM Breakfast

7:30 – 8:00 Morning Prayer, Recapitulation/Announcements

8:00-12:00 Various Workshops

Peace thru Ecology and Health

House of Mindanao and Sulu for Ecology, Health and Peace (Balay Minsug)

Peace thru Economic Development

Presenter: Datu Ebrahim “Toto” P. Paglas
Peace & Women Empowerment

Mindanao Tri-People Women Resource Center

Peace thru the Uplift of Children

Presenter: Dr. N. Alipui, UNICEF

The Role of Civil Society in Peacemaking

Mindanao PeaceWeavers

International Solidarity, Cooperation & Linkages

Sumpay Mindanao

Peace through Interfaith Cooperation

Bishops Ulama Conference

Peace through Participative Governance

Atty. Eunice Cruz, UP Law Center

The Role of Media in Peace Building

MPPM Friends in Media

Effective Lobbying/Advocacy and Resource Generation MPPM Consultancies

Peace and the Youth

Alyansa ng Kabataang Mindanao Para sa Kapayapaan

Rido and Its Implications to Peace

Presenter: Sultan Maguid Maruhom

Peace and Migration

MPPM Friends from the Int'l Community/Kaagapay

On Peace and the Arts

Presenter: Joey Ayala

12:00-1:30 PM Lunch/Prayers

1:30-2:30 Final Plenary Session

Discussion and Approval of the 4th MPPM Summit
Declaration

2:30 - 6:00 Solidarity Messages and Closing Rites

Hon. Gerry A. Salappudin

Congressman, Lone District of Basilan and Deputy Speaker for Mindanao, House of Representatives

Congressman Mujiv S. Hataman

Representative, Anak-Mindanao Party-list

Congressman Mario "Mayong" Aguja

Representative, AKBAYAN Party-list

Representative

International Monitoring Team

Sr. Arnold Maria E. Noel, SSps

Lead Convenor, MPPM-Manila & Board Member, Balay Rehabilitation Center

Representative of the General Secretary

World Council of Churches

6:00 - 6:30 Prayers

6:30- 7:30 Dinners

7:30- 10:00PM Tri-Peoples' Night (Katawhang Lumad, Bangsamoro

Mindanao Migrants or their Descendants) featuring

Joey Ayala, the AKMK Band and the SCC Peace Band.

Day 6-Sunday, December 17, 2006

6:30- 7:30AM Breakfast and Departure after Tri-People

Prayers/Reflections from Religious Leaders

Important Note:

The 4th MPPM Peace Summit will be preceded by a Mindanao Peoples' Caravan on Human Rights and Peace on December 9-11, 2006. Caravaners take off from various points in Mindanao on the 9th.

Those from Southern and Central Mindanao will initially gather in Midsayap, Cotabato, where a Forum on the Right to Self-Determination will be held at Southern Christian College (SCC) from 2-6 p.m. Those from Eastern and Northern Mindanao will gather in Iligan City, where a concert with Gary Granada in the evening will be held. There will be a rally in Pagadian City on December 10th at 4:00 p.m. to mark the 58th Year of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Caravan ends with a Forum on Human Rights and Peace at Western Mindanao State University (WMSU) in Zamboanga City on Dec. 11, 2006, at 6 p.m. co-hosted by MPPM and the City of Zamboanga with former Vice President Teofisto T. Guingona, Jr. and AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, Jr. as speakers. The Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA) and Karapatan have been invited as well. The Chair of the Philippine Commission on Human Rights, Dr. Purificacion V. Quisumbing, will be represented by Atty. Jose Manuel Mamauag and/or Atty. Macakuna T. Casar. The Caravaners then proceed to Basilan for the Peace Summit by boat the following morning. All vehicles may be left safely in Zamboanga under the care of the City Government.