PHILIPPINE CULTURE AND TRADITIONS

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The Philippines is one of a kind and incomparable. Among so many countries in the world the Philippines is renowned because of the Filipino values, culture and tradition.

Filipinos are known for being resilient. Being the archipelago that the Philippines is and being that the country is in the Indo-Pacific region that is bombarded by countless of typhoons each year. The Filipinos are used to natural disaster and can push their way through them. During trying times, Filipinos great quality of being hospitable and generous to others comes out and they help one-another. They do not just sit and cry when things do not go their way, they perceive and rise above hurdles.

This can also be associated to the fact that Filipinos are very religious Filipino faith in Christ is strong and they believe that the Almighty will not let them go through things that they could not handle. In times of disasters Filipino’s devotion acts as their pillar and support, along with the strong familiar bonds that is very common among Filipinos.

Filipinos are family-oriented people, they value family very much. In the Philippines unlike in America, children do not usually move-out of home when they turn eighteen or when they go to college unless the child studies somewhere far. Families stay together even after the children are wed and the children take care of their parents until they grow old. Many Filipino traditions also revolve around family.

The Philippines is popularly known for the longest celebration of Christmas. Christmas celebration starts in the first day of September up until the last days of
December and even continues to the Feast of the Three Kings. In the 24th of December, Filipino families get-together to prepare and celebrate Noche Buena, the Filipino version of Christmas eve dinner. There is also another dinner which is the Media Noche which is held at New Year’s Eve.

Aside from Christmas, Filipino also celebrates the day of the departed, or the All Souls Day on November. This also proves how Filipino value their family even beyond death. Families flock cemeteries to remember their relatives that passed on, offering flowers, candles and prayers. In the night of November 1st, cemeteries are lit with millions of candles.

Many Filipino tradition and culture are born through centuries of foreign influence in the country. But majority of it was from the Spaniard that colonialized the Philippines for more than three hundred years. The Spanish colonizers were the ones who brought the Christian religion to the Philippines five hundred years ago. They influenced the Filipino natives to adapt their beliefs and traditions like celebrating Patron Saints. Although the history of the Spanish operation was a bloody and chaotic one, the imprint that it left in the country built the core foundation of the Philippine’s culture that we see today.

Philippines rich and diverse culture and the people’s attitude towards others are the defining characteristics of the nation. It is so very prevalent that not a few foreign tourists fell in love with the beauty of the Pearl of the Orient Seas.

Though there are some road bumps the past couple of years due to many issues that seems to dim the shine of the Philippine flag, those were mere challenges to prove the country of the brave can really perceive.
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