

### Filipino Migration to Hong Kong: Social & Economic Context



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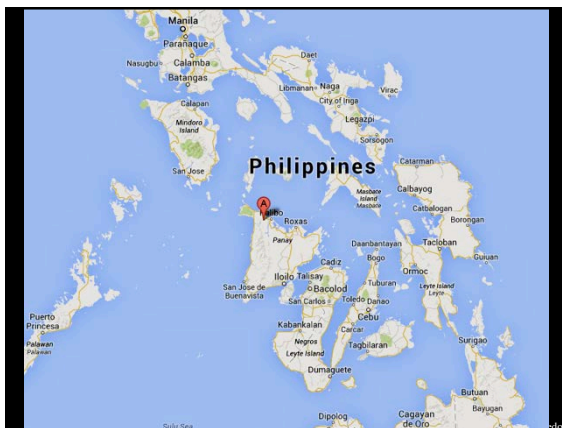


Balayan, Batangas (Luzon), Pentax SF1N, Sensia 100

### Aklan Province



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### Economy of Aklan

- **Agricultural economy**
  - Palay (#1): rice production (inland)
  - Coconut: Ibahay, Balete, Banga, Makato
  - Livestock (pigs) & poultry
- **Fishing/aquaculture (coastal areas)**
  - Fishing: very seasonal, Sibuyan Sea
  - Aquaculture: fishponds
- **Tourism: Boracay (Top Island Resort 2012 NBC)**

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## Clarification Questions?

Discussions

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## Manila: The First World in a Third World

“Metro Manila”:  
Quezon City & Manila &  
Surrounding Areas

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## Manila's Economic Growth

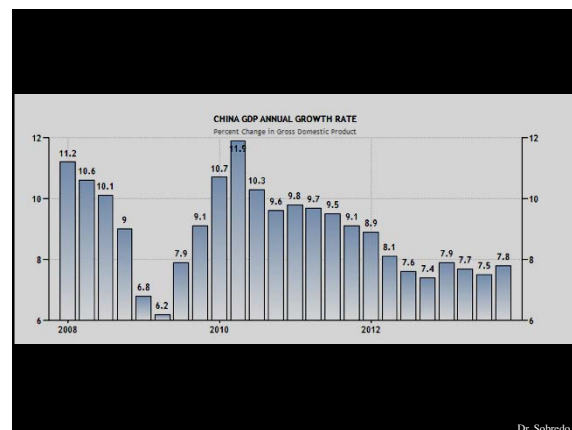
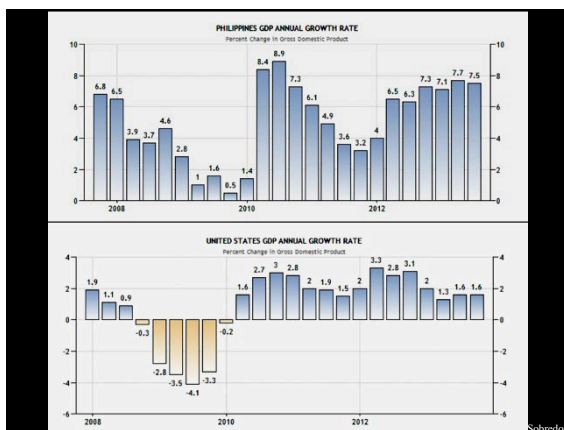
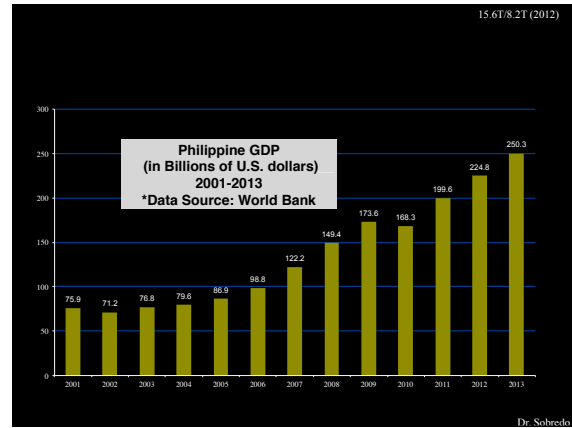
- **Construction (+14% growth 2012)**
  - Government Infrastructure Development
  - Real Estate boom: driven by OFW funding (80%)
- **Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)**
  - Philippine became #1 outsourcing center in the world in November 2011 (*New York Times*)
  - Makati, Ortigas, Quezon City, Cebu, Bacolod

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DW News  
(Germany)

## Philippine Economy 2015



## Clarification Questions?

Discussions

## Hong Kong: World Class Capitalist City The "Wall Street" of Asia



**And all your problems are gone: religious coping strategies among Philippine migrant workers in Hong Kong**

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This paper provides an ethnographic account of both hardships and religious coping strategies of Philippine migrant workers in Hong Kong. It will argue that intensified coping needs that arise from the migration process may lead to a reorientation towards more charismatic religious groups, which in turn seem to promote coping strategies specifically tailored towards the (relatively homogenous) experiences of these migrants. It will also argue that, while the "disempowering" implications of religious coping rest ambiguous, it may assist the toleration of exploitative patterns in migration by reducing their emotional cost.

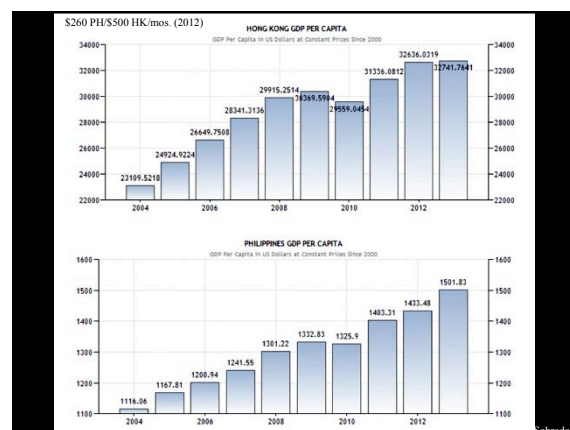
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**Economic Factors & Context**

- **HK: higher incomes** (GDP per capita) compared to the Philippines (graph: World Bank data) (\$250/\$500 US)
- **Hiring of Filipino OFWs** began in late-1970s (cf. 1997): shift from manufacturing to service econ.
- **Hong Kong & maids** (Filipino/Indonesians)
  - "highest number of maids per capita in Asia" (*South China Morning Post* 2012)
  - 173,726 FP workers in 2015 (2015 Census) (Rappler, 4.17.2015)
- **Globalization of economy & labor migration**
  - 1974 Marcos "Manpower" program to now 10% of total Philippine population are OFWs (IMF)

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**Employment Crisis in Philippines**

- **Prevailing economic stagnation & stratification**
  - National: 34.2% live below poverty line
  - RURAL: 47.4% live below poverty line
- **Large supply of RNs**
  - **100,000** under-employed RNS (cf. R. Parrenas)
- **Large number of unemployed RNs**
  - 10,000 graduates each year (2003)
  - Only 1,000 nursing jobs available (2003, Philippines)
- **HK = low UNEMPLOY & low UNDER-employment: 3.3% & 1.5% (2013) (HK Census)**

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**OFW**  
A GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR 2015

**2.3 m**  
2.3 million OFWs in 2015

**WHAT ARE THEIR OCCUPATIONS?**

- 83% LABORER
- 17% SERVICE & SALES
- 13% TRADES
- 13% PLANT OPERATOR
- 11% PROFESSIONALS
- 13% OTHER

**2014 OFW Statistics - 2.3 million work abroad**  
AUGUST 06, 2015 BY OFWGURU

In 2014, a total of 2.3 million Filipinos work abroad. More Filipinos were deployed as OFWs (4,000/day) compared to the number of Filipinos who found jobs in the Philippines (2,800/day). Future forecast only estimate the number to increase as global economy improves. According to World Bank, personal remittances hit new historic high at US\$2.7 billion contributing 10% of the country's GDP.

10% of Total Philippine Population

95% are women in Hong Kong

2-year contracts

Source: <http://www.ofwguru.com/blogs/ofw-2014-statistics/>

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