

# Masonic Facts (Philippines)

WB Calixto B. Antonio, PM (29)

1. The first Freemasons to set foot on Philippine soil were believed to be Englishmen in 1756. They were Dr. Eduard Wigat and James O'Kennedy, a merchant.
2. The first regular Masonic lodge in the Philippines was organized in 1856 by Spanish Naval Officers, Malcampo and Nuñez. The name of the lodge was "Primera Luz Filipina." It was located in Cavite province.
3. There are at present ten (10) Masonic lodges in Cavite province.
4. The Grand Lodge of the Philippines was founded on December 19, 1912, first known as the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands. When "Islands" was officially dropped from the name of our country, the Grand Lodge dropped also "Islands" from its name.
5. The Grand Lodge of the Philippines is the daughter Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of California (U.S.A.).
6. The Grand Lodge of the Philippines has two (2) daughter Grand Lodges.
7. The first Grand Master was MW H. Eugene Stafford.
8. The first Filipino Grand Master was MW Manuel L. Quezon in 1918.
9. The first Filipino initiated into Freemasonry in the Philippines was in a German lodge in Manila.
10. The territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines includes Lodges located in Marianas Islands, Guam, Marshall Islands, Okinawa and Japan.
11. There are eleven (11) lodges named after cities.
12. There are nineteen (19) lodges named after provinces.
13. There are twelve (12) lodges named after towns.
14. There are twenty three (23) lodges named after mountains, mountain ranges and volcanoes.
15. There are four (4) lodges named after Filipino generals.
16. There are two (2) lodges named after American presidents.
17. There are two (2) lodges named after Filipino presidents.
18. There is a lodge named after an American Governor General in the Philippines.
19. There are two (2) lodges named after Rizal.
20. As of July 1967 the Grand Lodge of the Philippines has 143 symbolic lodges. △

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An average day with our four boys — a ten-year old, a two-year old and seven-year old twins — can produce as much confusion as an unorganized picnic. Coming home from work one evening, eager to be with my family and looking forward to a good dinner, I was met by a squad of commandos, a tribe of Indians and a space patrol, all rolled into one.

When my wife greeted me warmly with, "I'm sure glad you're home," I felt myself a tower of strength and a proud patriarch. But then, she added with a sigh, "You are the only one who obeys me."

—Jack All.