

WHY THE NEGRITOS HAVE FLAT NOSES

A LEGEND—By Antonio C. Muñoz

ONCE upon a time all the people in the world had no noses. Everyone had only two small holes in his face where the air passed through when he breathed. Of course the people did not care whether they had noses or not. There was no one among them who possessed or had ever possessed such a thing.

One night, one of them dreamed that he saw a man. The man in his dream looked so different from himself and from all the men in the neighborhood that he studied the vision very carefully. At last he found out that it was the nose that made the great difference. In his dream, he asked the man where he got the projecting part of his face. The man told him that he prayed to the Spirit for a gift, and that was the gift he got. "It is called a nose," the man said.

"That surely looks good!" the dreamer exclaimed. "I am going to pray too so that the Spirit will send me a gift."

But he woke up before he could begin to pray. He touched his face. It was smooth and bare. There was no nose there.

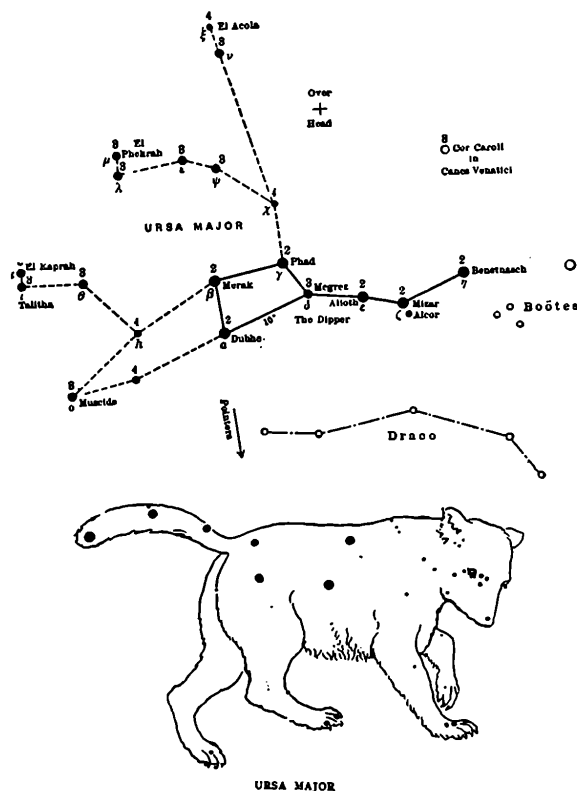
In the morning, he told all that he met about the man in his dream and how the latter got his nose. A week later, everybody was informed of the man's dream. They decided to pray together so that they would also have noses.

Their prayer was heard, for on the next day, a big boat came loaded with noses. When everybody had one, the ship sailed away to distribute the rest to the people in the other parts of the world.

As the first distribution was made in Europe and Western Asia, the people there got those on top. Consequently they were well-shaped. The last distribution was made in the Philippines. Most of the noses were flat due to the pressure of the weight of the other noses in the upper layers be-

THE SKY AND THE STARS

Ursa Major, the Greater Bear



URSA Major, or the Greater Bear, is the most easily recognized and the most widely known of all the constellations. It can be seen in the northern sky the greater part of the year. Seven stars of this group form the Big Dipper. Two stars called the Pointers point to the north star.

People in different parts of the world tell different stories about this constellation, but most of them refer to it as the Bear. The people of ancient Greece had several legends about it. One legend tells us that this constellation was once a beautiful nymph named Callisto. Because of her great beauty, Juno, the queen of the goddesses, became jealous of her. Fearing that Callisto might be hurt by Juno, Jupiter, the

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fore the first distribution was made. Some of the Filipinos who lived on the lowlands got well-shaped noses but the Negritos who came last received those at the bottom. That is why the Negritos have flat noses.