



The Chronological History of Christianization towards Maranao Muslims in Lanao del Sur Based on Dialogues: An Analytical Study (Article2)

Mohammad Nashief S. Disomimba

Institute of Islamic, Arabic and International Studies
Mindanao State University, General Santos City, Philippines

Abstract

This paper utilized a content study to clarify the history of Christian Colonization towards Maranao Muslims in Lanao del Sur, Marawi City. The study focuses on the activities conducted by Christian colonizers either seminars or education through establishment of any government schools or other approaches. The tendency of giving priority of this study is to discuss the approaches of Christian colonization towards Maranao Muslims in Marawi city, to clarify the hidden reality of their activities of Christian colonization through engagement with the communities without fighting. To address this limitation, an analytical study is conceived to foreground the nature of Christian colonization in the Province of Lanao del Sur, Marawi City. The objectives of this study is to identify and trace the historical Christian colonization towards Maranao, the Second National Muslim, Christian Dialogue, Catholic Protestant, Consultation, The General Assembly of Youth in Marawi and how the Muslims managed to survive with the several approaches of Christian colonization. Descriptive Analysis used in this paper in order to de scribe the activities of Christian colonization, contextualizing and examining the factors that shaped nature Christian colonization, synthesizing and understanding/confirming/clarifying the reality of the nature of Christian colonization, coating and citing some views of Muslim and Christian scholars on the historical Christian colonization if exist their ideas. One of the most important result of the study; the Filipino Muslims knew that the main purpose of sending Christian missionaries to Lanao del Sur and Christian settlers through the Philippine Government is to take their lands and Christianize them. The history of Christianization faced by Maranao Muslims taught them to wake-up each other, and teach each other to unite as one body, one family and one nation in order to stop the Christian colonization in the province of Lanao del Sur, and the Christian colonization program never success in Marawi City until now except through education or establishing some government schools. The study recommended to readers to read more books which dealing the history of Christian colonization towards Maranao Muslims in the province of Lanao del Sur in order to know it's the purpose, mission and vision in Lanao del Sur, Marawi City, Philippines.

Key Words: Muslim-Christian Dialogue, Christian Faith and Ideologies, Youth Assembly.

preface¹

Problem Statement

Christian Organizations tried to Christianize the Maranao in Lanao del Sur, Marawi City. One of the most difficult problem in Lanao del Sur is the following organizations; the Second National Muslim -Christian Dialogue, Catholic Protestant Consultation, The First General Assembly of Youth in Marawi. All these organizations attempt to Christianize the Maranao those who residing at Lake Lanao and treated them in good conduct and helping the poor and educate theme under the name of Jesus Christ as Lord and Creator of human being. This is the most difficult approach because they are not killing the native people in the province of Lake Lanao but they helped theme through scholarship, establishing the schools, giving food, medicine, money in the name Jesus Christ as a Lord (Macarandas, 2009 & Disomimba 2018). The second problem faced by Muslim Filipinos until now is the approach of western education through integration; this is more difficult and more dangerous because the purpose of western education and integration is to take them from Islamic religion to Christian religion step by step without fighting (Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Methodology of the Study

The design of this article is interpretive and qualitative investigation of a single case, the Chronological History of Christian Colonization towards Maranao Muslims in Lanao del Sur. An analysis sampling is use because it is in need to analyze the data and the historical background of the of the Christian colonization, their approaches through establishment of government schools, establishment of Christian camp in the Muslim areas heading by military government or Christian private organizations. The interpretive and analyzing of the History of Christian Colonization towards Maranao Muslims in Lanao del Sur within the theoretical tradition of discourse and language. In interpreting the data, a framework was conceptualized, integrating three interrelated discursive concepts: text, context and intertextuality in order to understand it properly (Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Result of the Study

The study of Christian organizations in Marawi city such as *Prelature in Marawi City, Marawi Auxilladora Parish* and its vision has a good impacts and results towards Maranao Muslims in Marawi city in order to know deeply their mission and vision. *So* one of the most important results of the study; the Maranao Muslims knew the main purposes of existence of these Christian organizations supported by military governments is to Christianize them through establishment of any government schools or establishment of military camp in the Muslim areas in Lanao del Sur, Marawi City. The existence of Christian Organizations in Lanao del Sur specifically in Islamic City of Marawi taught the Maranao Muslims to set-up their Islamic coherent, strengthening their brotherhood, wake-up each other in order to challenge and stop the activities of Christianization in Marawi city conducted by several Christian Organization. Based on Maranao Islamic unity, the program of Christianization has no impacts towards them until now due to their concretely step and standing together side by side and the Islamic City of Marawi still

¹ Please see my Article 1 because this is the continuation of my first Article.

dominated by Maranao Muslims and never conquered and never Christianized our City and still its name Islamic city of Marawi (Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Discussion with Analysis

Muslim-Christian Dialogue

The Second National Muslim -Christian Dialogue

The dialogue between Muslim-Christian is very important in our current time, because we cannot solve any problem and we cannot decrease the or minimize any dangerous situation through fighting but through dialogue we can solve any problem we are facing it. Based on the data I collected it, it is confirmed in the year 1976- Jan. 19th the second National Muslim-Christian Dialogue was held in Marawi. Bp. Tuddud was a participant. And we know that the Rome has a huge help towards Christian were assign in Marawi city in order to Christianize the Maranao Muslims residing in Lake Lanao Province Macarandas. 2009). It was mentioned the Rome invited some Christian to study Arabic Studies, among the invited Bishop Tuddud, he was invited by Pope Paul VI who was interested in having Prelature in Muslim areas for reconciliation rather than conversion. In October Bp. Submitted a proposed to make Marawi a separate prelature and in order to make it broad and make it as a central Church in Marawi city (Disomimba, 2021) . It is confirmed in November, 1976, the Decree of Erection of the Prelature was given by Rome with it help to strengthening the prelature in Marawi city. On Dec. 8th 1976, the Prelature of Marawi was erected through the idea of Paul VI (Macarandas, 2009). In my humble opinion, Rome has never moved so fast but slowly sure. That was because this was the Pope's idea and personal project, not for conversion but for a dialogue of life and faith and until now this idea exist and the priests in Marawi city still continue this dialogue of life and faith in order to decrease the misunderstanding between Christian and Muslim in Lanao del Sur (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

The priests were assign in Marawi city has a series of meeting. In the year 1977- In March 1977 Bp. Tuddud called a preliminary meeting in Marawi wherein the priest of the new Prelature, all Columbians with their Regional Superior, Fr. Reidy; the Sisters and their Provincials; Margaret Ann, RSM, Avelina, FMM, and Emelina, ICM met together to exchange dreams, visions and 'revisions' regarding the new Prelature. So the purpose of their meeting is how they can communicate with the Muslims in Lanao del Sur easily in order to Christianize them through education(*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

After their meetings, they feel that their situation in Marawi city has become strong, and in that time on April 30th Bp. Tuddud was appointed the Bishop of the Prelature of Marawi. May 25th 1977 marked the official birth-date of the Prelature with the Installation of Msgr. Bienvenido Tuddud, DD, as its first Bishop with Msgr. Bruno Torpigliani, DD, Papal Nuncio officiating. Present were; Bishop. Capalla, Claver, Varela, Morelos, Nepomuceno, Regan Escaler, Amantillo Mabutas. Special guests were Rev. Peter Steen, Dr. Peter Gowing, and most of the priests and sisters from the Dioceses of Iligan and friends (Macarandas, 2009). Everyone we struck by the poverty of the new cathedral, and Mon. Celi, Secretary to the Nuncio, pledge the help of the Nunciature for aid to the Prelature. In June the Living the Gospel Community, LGC came to Marawi from Cebu. At first Sr. Cesaria lived and worked in pumping for about a year. 'On July 3, 1977 the canonical erection of the Sisters as Diocesan Congregation was affected by Bp. Tuddud. In 1982 they were turned over to Cardinal Ricardo Vidal of Cebu' (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

The first Prelature Meeting was held in St. Mary's refectory, Marawi, June 29-30 with most if not all the whole prelature present, Msgr. Tuatud presiding. Michael Diamond, Kevin Mchugh, Sean Nolan, Sean McDonagh; Gertrude Fermin, FMM, Fidels Nasol, FMM, Constancia Gomez, FMM, Mamerta Pagente RSM, Ma. Delia Coronel, ICM Cesaria Alia, LGC, with Msgr. Fred Crackenback, the founder of the LGC 'Living the Gospel Congregation' as special guest; seminarians Jhonny Paquera and Rene Pabro; catechist Adelaida Cantona, Ma. Lourdes 'Belo' Bairondo. Absent; Robert Stack of Balabagan and Terry Twohig, who was still in Manila. It was decided during this meeting that this Prelature would have a different set-up without the usual offices and organizations except for the really needed one which were assigned immediately, e.g. vocation Directors; Sean Nolan and Merts Pagents, RSM; Superintendent of School- Angkay Ma. Delia Coronel (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

At this time there were three FMM's Gertrude Fermin, Constance and Fidela Nasol and one Mercy Sister-Mamerta Pafenta living in a residence in Moncado Colony, in a house rented from judge Neniteez. It is confirmed in the 31st of July Demetrio B. Benitez offered to sell the house and lot for p70.000. no action was taken by the Prelature, so in December he sold it to a Maranao and the Sisters moved to the Church in town (Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Based on the data I collected it, it was mentioned in August 5th is the first seminarian, Jhonny Paquera was ordained Deacon in Marawi by Tuatud. The bigger date was November 30th 1977 when he was ordained priest by bp. Tuatud in Malabang. They set a meeting in order to ease everything specifically with communication of Maranao Muslims residing at Lake Lanao (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

In the year 1978- three Sisters SR. Delia, ICM and Sr. Getrude and Contance FMM's all of MSU were kidnapped.. Sr. Constance was sent back to negotiate. They were released after two weeks. Sir Miriam Jhon (Mercy) lived with the other sisters at the church in Marawi. They were kidnapped unknown able group those want to take a money, and in this matter we strongly condemn the kidnappers and even though we are Maranao Muslims; we are very afraid from that kidnappers because even Maranao they kidnapped them. In the history, it was written a lot Maranao Muslims were killed because of this unknown able group willing to kill anyone *The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

In the year 1979 April. Roger Lood joined the Prel. Ordained priest July 15th in Lagonglong, Mis. Or., his native place. Priests' retreat held this year in Cebu. Frs. Albor, Paquera and Twohig studied Maranao language for 8 months in order to communicate the Maranao Muslims in the Province of Lanao del Sur, Marawi city. For your information, Maranao Muslims in Lanao del Sur is very easy to communicate if you can speak with their language. In that time, the Christian colonizers has a new approach towards Maranao which is learning their local dialect (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). In the year 1988 two more Sisters joined the group in Marawi Sr. Maria Elena Benigre and Sr. Socorro Largo. (Mercy Sisters were to work in Malabang in 1981 because they want to educate all over Lanao del Sur specifically the Maranao Muslims because it was written in the history that the Maranao Muslims did not colonize since the coming of Spanish and America until our current time. And later on, in October four contemplative Carmelite Nuns started living in a little house built for them on lot 9 in Marawi and two more joined them in November, this is very important miles stone of the Christian Colonizers were assign at Lanao del Sur Marawi city (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Christian Faith and Ideologies

Catholic Protestant Consultation on Christian Faith and ideologies has role in spreading the Christian Religion specifically in Marawi city and all over the Philippine Islands. In the year 1981 Feb. 23-26. It was mentioned that

the Catholic- Protestant Consultation on Christian Faith and Ideologies, sponsored by Lloyed G. Van of Dansalan Jr. College and Bp. Tutud of the Prelature members has started their mission to Lanao del Sur, Marawi city. This Christian Protestant Faith and Ideologies has a strong role in spreading the Christian Religion towards Maranao Muslims (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

In the year 1981, it is the Fourth National Muslim-Christian Dialogue was held in Marawi November 30th to December 4th. Bp. Tutud was participant. In my humble opinion, this Dialogue is very important to both Christian and Muslims residing at Lanao del Sur, Marawi city because it will minimize the misunderstanding between Christians and Muslims and it will lead them to live side by side without hating each other, without harming each other and without fighting each other (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Based on the data I collected it, it as mentioned in the year 1982 that the UCCP (President Church in Marawi has been burnt and there was a threat to burn the Catholic Church in Marawi city by the unknown able group. During May there was a meeting in Malabang of full-time Prelature workers with the clergy. With a lott of participation and reflection they draw up their vision. The final wording was done by Bp. Tutud and it is and excellent statement of the spirit of Dialogue of life and Faith for the Prelature in that time (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

It was mentioned in Sept. all the Carmelites of Marawi went to Zamboanga in order to meet with their Father General. The Marawi foundations was approved. 'formal approval came July 9, 1983'. They meet their Father General in order to re-road map of their mission and vision in Lanao del Sur, Marawi city. Unfortunately in the year 1982-83; Des Hartfold went to Rome in order to learn Islamic studies because the Christian colonizers understand that without Arabic language they cannot Christianize the Maranao Muslims in Lanao del Sur because Maranao still held the their belief that Arabic language is the language of people of paradise and it is the language of the Creator (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

In the year 1983, some priests want ot visit at Marawi city, such as Cardinal Sin was supposed to visit Marawi city after the installation of Bp. Capalla in Iligan Diocese. His plan to visit did not materialize. But 35 other Bishops, Priests, Sisters and lay workers did make the visit. They saw the 'well worn wooden church soon to be fixed before it collapse entirely'. Their visitation has encourages the Christian were assign in Marawi city even though the situation is not stable in that time (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

It was happened that the priests were assign in Marawi city was scattered or assign again in several part of the Philippines not only in Marawi city. It is confirmed in April 9th. Fr. Edwin de la Pena MSP left Marawi for Tagaytay in order to help in the information of future Filipino missionaries. In Dec. 16th Fr. Chito Yanoc was ordained as Deacon in Ozamiz by Archbishop Jose Dosado, C.M., D.D. (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002) And in the year 1984 From January on Jerome Oringo, OFM, began supervising the construction of the new Cathedral, begun by Fr. Mich Diamond. In March 17th, Fr. Chito Yanoc was ordained to the priesthood in Karomatan, Lanao del Norte by Bp. Bienvinido S. Tutud. Followed in the year 1985-1987-Bishop Tutud produced a daily fifteen minute radio program called 'Balyakag' aired over DXDD Ozamis. In all produced 567. The Priests were assign in Marawi city has hard working in every day and every night and they never surrender their mission until our current time. So as result of their hard working in Lanao del Sur, some municipalities became Christian majority specifically at Lanao del Norte not in Lanao del Sur (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

In the year 1985 March 29th. It was confirm that Erwin Schoenstein was put in charge of completing construction of the Cathedral. The frame, roof and seminar section had been completed and they started their weekly seminar

after completion. Unfortunately, in the year 1986, on the last days of February hundreds of heavily armed men in MSU and they are ready to fight. Graduation was just days away. Students crying for automatic promotion but in this time fighting never happened due to the concern of Muslims and Christians to stop the fighting. Unfortunately, in the year 1986 July 11th. (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). All the Carmelite sister of Marawi were kidnapped. At about 9;15 pm. They were taken to Lumbayanagi on the other side of the lake. Released on July 17th. Sept. 4th Armed man tried to kidnap the Carmelite sisters again. This time before six o'clock in the morning. The sisters stayed in the chapel praying the Memorated, holding hands. They refused to moved. Eventually captors left when they heard the car of the chaplain. As we are Maranao Muslims, we strongly condemn the kidnapers of all Carmelite sisters in Marawi city, this activity is conducted by unknown able group and this group even Maranao Muslims they kidnapped them and we are very afraid from them because of their activities (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

It was mentioned in the year 1987, in May. Many evacuations due to harassment, vote-buying, terrorism during the elections. And in June 26th. tragic death of Bishop Tuddud on flight approaching the Baguio Airport. The plane burnt on impact and we never received any remains of his body, the Creator gave him rest. From June to October Fr. Dong Galenzoga took over as diocesan Administration of the Prelature Marawi city, staying at the Bishop's residence. In July 10th. In the absence of a funeral service was held in Marawi cathedral for Bishop Tuddud. Fr. Des Hartford was the homilist (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). Based on the data I collected, it was mentioned, that the first Bishop's Council meeting without Benny agreed to make Memorability for Benny Tuddud. Oct. 15th. Bp. Fernando Capalla of Iligan was appointed Apostolic Administrator of the Prelature in Marawi city while remaining Bishop of the Diocese of Iligan. Fr. Des Hartford was his Vicar General until June 26th of 1988. 1988- From October '88 to Sept. 91' Dong Galenzoga took Islamic studies at Rome because the Christian colonizers realized that not easy to Christianize the Maranao Muslims without Arabic language(*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). So after we discussed about the Christian Faith and Ideologies, we should move to the Youth Assembly in Marawi City in order to know more about its mission and vision and purpose towards Maranao Muslims (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2021).

Youth Assembly in Marawi City

The youth Assembly in Marawi city has a huge roles in terms of balancing between Christin and Muslims in Marawi city through dialogue and education. It was mentioned that the First General Assembly of Youth in Marawi city started in the 1989- March 4th. It is the Frist General Assembly of Youth in Marawi. This was a youth group of Christians and Muslims, moderator Fr. Joseph Ray Billiran of St. Mary's. In February 19-23. Second Pastoral Assembly held at St. Mary's Marawi city of special note was that a jeep-load of delegates from Malabagan (It was said Balabagan not Malabang) were kidnapped on the way to Marawi city (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2015; 2014).

The Muslim youth in Marawi city, some members of Muslim youth group went that night to the place where being held in order to negotiate the kidnapers. Later they also had a sharing during the Assembly Youth in Marawi city (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002 & Alonto, 1976). Unfortunately, it was mentioned in April some Drug Addicts have been bothering our Carmelites. So Fr. Elgar Nadon and two companions approached the mayor about this problem and the Mayor promised help them in order to calm down the situation between Christians and Muslims residing in the Lanao del Sur, Marawi city and the Mayor to settle this problem as soon as possible. So as a result through the caring and help of Mayor, the situation is very peaceful. In Nov. 20th. Francis Cardinal Arienza of the sacred Congregation for Dialogue with non-Christians visited Marawi city (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2014).

Unfortunately, it was mentioned in December 30th. Fr. Michel and his niece were kidnapped outside the gate of the Bishop's residence, Marawi city by unknown able group of semi military. They were released the next day at 8:00 PM. This was the second time Michel was kidnapped by group of unknown able group with their guns. As I mentioned before that strongly condemn this unknown able group of militia and we are afraid from their because even us they kill us not only kidnapped. A lot of Muslims were killed by unknown able group in Marawi city because this group they never distinguish this is Christian or this Muslim but if they want to kill or kidnap him/her they will do as they want (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). In the year 1990 June 22nd – ordination to the priesthood of Fr. Nilo Tabania by Bp. Bienvenido S. Tudtud held in Magsaysay, Zamboanga del Sur. And in the year 1991 November 8th, Fr. Desmond Hartford, SSC, took over as newly appointed Apostolic Administrator of the Prelature of Marawi City. Fr. Dong Galenzoga was appointed Vicar General Jan 7th 1992. But in that time, the situation was very peaceful because of the Muslim-Christian Youth help each other to solve any problem they faced it and with the help of some Mayor in Lanao del Sur, Marawi city (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

It was mention and confirmed, in the year 1992, there was a particular difficult period in this part of Mindanao specifically in Iligan. Based on the data I read, a grenade blast during the Easter Salubong procession in front of the Cathedral in Iligan killed innocent six people. That was followed by a massacre of an entire Muslim family in Iligan. Then 15 Christian were killed in one month (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018).

Due to the difficult situation, some leaders both Christian and Muslim gathered and help each other to solve this problem. In July a mixed group of civic, military and religious leaders met with members of the prelature of Marawi city for the consultation on the situation. This group continued to meet monthly. And it was developed into Muslim-Christian Movement for Dialogue and Peace in Lanao del Sur, Marawi city. By 1994 the military and civic leaders had dropped out, but a core group of about 15 members (mostly religious leaders) continue to meet at least every two months up to the present '1999'. In my humble opinion, the Muslim-Christian Movement for Dialogue and Peace should be continued in our current time in order to minimize the misunderstanding between Christian and Muslim and guided the new generation in Lanao del Sur, Marawi city. 'Credit for this goes to Prof. Moctar Matuan of MSU and F. Des Hartford' (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

The Christian priests were assign in Marawi city did not lost their hope to Christianize the Maranao Muslims residing in Lanao del Sur even though the situation is very difficult and they can conduct several assembly in several parts of the Mindanao (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). It was mentioned in the year 1993 Feb. 1-5, 4th Prelature Pastoral Assembly in Midway Beach Resort, Misamis Or. Theme: 'Forming and Enhancing the Goodness of the Church Community 'GSK' for the Invitation to the Life of Faith. 1993 - Feb 1-5. 4th Prelature Pastoral Assembly in Midway Beach Resort, Misamis Oriental (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021 & Alonto, 1976).

In the year 1994 from January on Jerome Oringo, OFM began supervising the construction of the new Cathedral, begun by Fr. Mich Diamond. So the Christian priests in Mindanao did not stop and did not lost to build their cathedral in any part of Mindanao. And they continue their program such as Theme: 'formation of Development of the Small Church Society (GSK) for Waiting for the Life of Faith' (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002).

In this 1994 August 19th. It is a difficult year, because it was mentioned that Lydia Macas, Media coordinator of the Prelature was killed in the Prelature Center by a grenade which exploded on the roof of the Bishop's residence at about 10 PM. And the killer was unknown able person (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). So as I mentioned even us we are very afraid from this bad people who can kill any human being residing in Lanao del Sur. In the year 1995 Oct. 21st the Christian priests were assign in Marawi city did not lost their hope

to Christianize the Maranao Muslims in Marawi city and they tried to conduct several seminars, dialogue or Ordination to the priesthood of REV. Teresito L. Soganub. House, Malabang, Ozamiz City. In the year 1996-Jan 2-6th. '5th the priests of the Prelature Pastoral Assembly' in Carmelite Seminar House, Malabang, Ozamaiz City started their seminar such as. Theme: 'The Role of the Laity in the Church in Dialogue, Justice & Peace' in order to make easy the communication of the Maranao Muslims. And followed in the year 1997- May 26-29th. Prelature Family Reunion in Pakilawag, Karomatan (SND) Lanao del Sur. Theme: 'Pamilya...Nagkahiusang Nagalawig Alang sa Kalinaw' (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

This is the very difficult situation of our Christian brothers in Lanao del Sur, because most of them were kidnapped through the unknown able gun men. It was mentioned in the month May 30th June 1st General Assembly of five-Weekes in Karomatan Lanao del Sur 'now Lanao del Norte' (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). The difficult situation in Oct. 27-Nov. 22nd, it was said the Kidnapping of Msgr. Desmond Hartford, SSC. And followed in Nov. 18-19th. Kidnapping of Fr. Bernard Maes, CICM. But the Priests were assign in Lanao del Sur never lost their hope and mission and even their situation is very difficult they conduct several seminars. For instance in Nov. 21-23rd. they conduct a Seminar on Health given by Sr. Letty Balingkit, M.A. & Demetria Rebosto for acupressure practicum to 22 participants. Ordination to the Priesthood of Fr. Caesar G. Malasa, OFM. It was mentioned 1992- Jan 8-11th, '4th Prelature Lay Forum' in Balabagan. Feb. 2-22nd. For different publications in Marawi, paper waters' Seminar held in Adeva's Rest House, Puntasilum, Manticao, Misamis or, directed by Msgr. Des, Shirly & Joy. Apr. 14th. Departure of Sr. Ma. Teresita Cadelenia, OCD from Marawi Carmel left to join the mission group for Ghana in Africa may be because of the situation in that time (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002).

There is another difficulties faced by Christian missionaries in Lanao del Sur. In was mentioned that some churches in Lanao del Sur was burn such as following; in May 15th. Burning of San Vicente Ferrer Church in Balo-I, Lanao del Norte. And in May 17th. Burning of OFM Covenant in Balo-I, Lanao del Norte (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002).

In my humble opinion, this is very difficult situation; kidnapping, killing and burning the churches of our Christian brothers is not good in any religion around the world specifically in the Abrahamic religion which Judaism, Christian and Islamic religion and all of this religion did not teach their followers to do this inhuman activities (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002 & Alonto, 1976). As we are Maranao Muslims residing in Lanao del Sur, Marawi city, we strongly condemn the group who did this bad activities and they will be asked in the Hereafter and by the Creator. But our Christian brothers did not surrender their ope to Christianize Maranao Muslims and they tried to conduct several program. In May 31st. Fr. Delfin Gualiza, JAR. IS welcomed in Karomatan Parish. and in June 26-27th. They conduct a Research & Documentation Seminar (phase) held at the Prelature Formation House in Pikalawag, Karomatan. Followed the conference in 19th-23rd. 10th Mindanao-Sulo Pastoral Conference (MSCPC) held in St. Vincent College, Dipolog City. And in the month Dec. 13th. Ordination of Rev. Paulus Lubor as deacon in San Isidro Parish, Balabagan by Bp. Orlando Quevedo, OMI, DD (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

Another difficulties faced by Christian priests in Lanao del Sur in the following; in the year 1999 Jan. 9th. Tabernacle of Purakan chapel in Balabagan was stolen. And in Jan 11th. Speakers/sound box the next day the Church bell were also stolen also by unknown able thieves and may be thieves among the Maranao Muslims or among the Chrisitan residing in Lanao del Sur. Apr. 5-9th. '6th Pastoral Assembly' held in st. Mary's held in st Mary's Theologate, Gango, Ozamiz City. Tema: 'Pagpalig-on sa BEC-DLF Alang sa Kalamboan ug Kalinaw Ngadto sa Tuig (Strengthening BEC-DLF For Smoothness and Clarity Into the Year). 2000' (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). June 10-13th. '14th Community Health Workers Assembly' held in San Isidro Formation House, Balabagan, Lanao del Sur. Tema: 'Ang Pgtahan sa Kaugalingon Diha sa Paglihook sa

mga Lumilihook sa Panglawas sa Prelature ni Sta. Maria'. July 23rd. 'Radio' in Malabang, Lanao del Sur between the Balindong & Ameril Families. Aug. 1st. first 'Prelature Diocesan Sunday'. Aug 2-4th. '6th Asian Journey Philippines'. Held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center i Pagadian City. Aug. 29-30th. 'Crisis Management Seminar' held at San Isidro Formation House, Balabagan Lanao del Sur. Nov. 30th. '13th MSU Children Festival for Peace' in MSU, Marawi City(*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Alonto, 1976). So this indicated the hardworking of the Christian priests in Lanao del Sur because any situation they faced and they never surrender for the sake of their Lord in order to spread their religion towards Maranao Muslims (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002).

It is worthy to mention the hardworking of the Christian were assign in Lanao del Sur because even though they faced several problem but they cannot stop their mission and still conducting several program. It was mentioned in Dec. 30th. 'San Isidro Parishwide Assembly' theme: 'The People of God Unite in Enduring Endeavor, Sharing the Faith and Successfully Reaching the New Millennium'. And in the year 2000 Jan. 3-6th. '5th. Prelature Lay Forum' held at Our Lady Peace Parish in Malabang Lanao del Sur. Followed in Feb. 25-27th. Prelature Education Seminar attended by 25 'trained health workers' held at the Prelature Formation House, Pikalawag, Karomatan (SND) Lanao del Norte. On Apr. 7-9th. 5th Prelature-Wide 'FLA' General Assembly held in the Marawi Resort Hotel, MSU, Marawi City (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002; Alonto, 1976 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018; 2017; 2015; 2014).

It was mentioned in June 17^t that Fr. Flordelito 'Erap' Nazarano is welcomed in our Lady of Peace Parish in Malabang Lanao del Sur. And in Oct. 13-15th. '5th DOPIM Lay Forum' held at in Tambulig Parish. Tema: 'Kagahum sa mga Layko Tawag sa Kahiusahan' (Theme: 'Magic among the Laity Calls for Unity'). Amd in Oct. 20-22nd. 'Parish Youth Panaw' of the KPSM held at the Prelature Formation House, Marawi City (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998 & Magdalena, 2002). In the year 2001- April 18-21st. 'Prelature Family Reunion held in Inahan sa Kinbuhi Seminary in Pala-o, Iligan City. Aug. 12th. Installation of Msgr. Edwin dela Pen`a, MSP, DD as Apostolic Prelate of the Prelature of St. Mary Marawi City. Nov. 10th. Silver Jubilee Calibration of the Prelature of St. Mary in Marawi City. Dec. 27th. Ordination of Msgr. Edwin dela Pan`a, MSP, DD as bishop held Ozamiz City by the Apostolic Nuncio to the Phil., Archbishop Antonio Franco, DD. compiled by Erwin Schoenstein, OFM (*The Bishop-Ulama Forum*, 1996-1998; Magdalena, 2002 & Disomimba, 2022; 2022; 2021; 2018 & Alonto, 1976).

In my humble opinion, Actually the Christian priests were assign in Lanao del Sur are Fearless from kidnapping and killing because even me as Maranao Muslim came from Lanao del Sur; I cannot do what the Christian priests deeds in the time of difficulties, this priests should be rewarded for their interest and fearless.

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