



# APPROPRIATING INDIGENOUS CULTURES IN THE PHILIPPINES: FESTIVALS AND OTHER SPECTACLES



A project of the Subcommission on Cultural Communities and  
Traditional Arts, National Commission on Culture and the Arts  
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## RATIONALE

The increasing appropriation of intangible and tangible cultural materials from indigenous cultures in the Philippines in festivals and other spectacles has generated mixed reactions from various stakeholders, namely, the indigenous peoples themselves, cultural workers, academics, and media practitioners. Towards the development of a framework for the review and assessment of the processes and outcomes of such appropriation, this three-day national congress will set the stage for the critique of the various modes of appropriation of indigenous cultural materials (e.g. commercial, academic, artistic, and political ends) as well as the formulation of policy recommendations to heighten awareness of the integrity of indigenous cultures in the country.

The congress is in line with NCCA's mandate to protect the integrity of cultural symbols and meanings in tangible and intangible traditions (i.e. social values, morals/ethical standards) of indigenous peoples in the Philippines.

It is also part of the forthcoming celebration of the indigenous peoples month on October 2006.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To provide the forum for productive interactions between indigenous peoples and the various social forces and communities that engage them in different aspects of cultural production
2. To identify the various modes of appropriation of indigenous cultures, including their positive and negative effects, on the lives of indigenous peoples
3. To determine the policy implications of the various modes of appropriation on the protection and promotion of the indigenous cultures in the Philippines
4. To generate wider sectoral participation, namely,
  - a. Indigenous peoples
  - b. Academe
  - c. Dancer-choreographer
  - d. Actors
  - e. Director-producer
  - f. Media practitioners
  - g. Policy makers
  - h. LGU officials and Tourism officers, and related practitioners
  - i. DOT officials and representatives
  - j. Other stakeholders

In addressing issues revolving around the protection and promotion of indigenous cultures in the country