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*Mt. Halcon, the highest mountain peak on the island of Mindoro.*

## ULASAN

Pictures are of the students from Ulasan School with husband and wife team teachers, Dario and Ms. Eleanor. Click for Adobe slides.

## MT HALCON

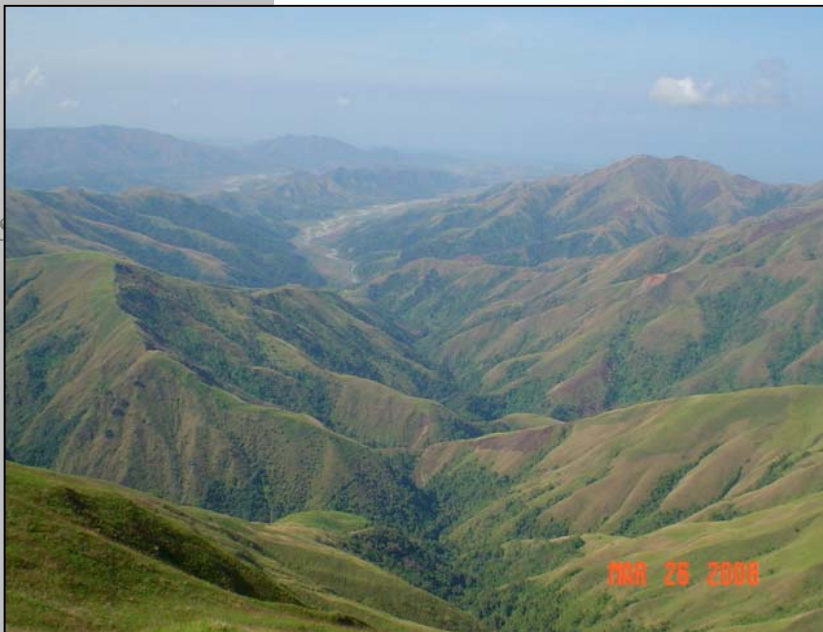
Remote, difficult to get to, primitive, survival, cold, open to the gospel.

These expressions apply to Mt. Halcon, the highest mountain peak on the island of Mindoro.

years ago now the mountain people, child-like in nature, fearful and timid fled to these mountain peaks. Taking advantage of the rough and sometimes treacherous trails they endured the hardships to feel safe and secure. With the war raging and the Japanese guerilla warriors invading their private retreats they felt it was time to head to the boondocks. You may or may not remember that boondocks is a word the American soldiers brought back from their stay in the Philippines during WWII. It is the Tagalog word for mountains.

The timid Manyan (sounds like onion) people only understood their way of life was under attack. They did not know how to protect themselves other than to flee. These are not a warring people at all.

Now decades later our own Alex Guyo, the first PMMF missionary



*the mountain people, fled to these mountain peaks.*

Filipino hiking clubs like to climb up part way. As you know the lowlanders live in a tropical climate complete with palm trees and warm to hot balmy breezes. Not so the inhabitants of Mt. Halcon. Many



now having served with us since the end of 2002, rediscovered this

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needy people group. Unlike other groups they were not asking for food, or medical care. They were asking for Bible teaching. The other needs are just as real as in other places but they had tasted of some of the gospel in the past and wanted to know more.

We are told that they had learned of the seventh-day Sabbath and recognize it as God's Day, and they want to know more.

PMMF has been trying to find some dedicated soul or souls to move to this mountain place. At over 8,400 feet elevation you can imagine the shock to the system of the lowlanders who have never known what cold feels like, to then climb to such a height.

Samson by name, made the trek to connect with this people group.



To get there they traveled in the dry riverbed.



Alex was glad for his sleeping bag although it was not really warm enough to satisfy him. The others did the best they knew how to do to keep somewhat warm during the night time.



Alex has been there on more than one occasion and near the end of March of this year he went there again along with Elmer Pajanel and a young Manyan volunteer—

During the day during that season it warmed up quite nicely.



*One picture shows the people in their thatch roofed "home" sitting on the tree branch floor*

Notice in the pictures the primitive conditions. One picture shows the people in their thatch roofed "home" sitting on the tree branch floor WITH A FIRE burning in the middle of the floor. They are trying to keep warm! It appears they were safe in this picture.



Sometimes the fire gets away from them and they lose their home and everything they own! This picture shows what happened to the church.



You can see Alex in his short-sleeved blue T-shirt and his yellow ball cap. Elmer is seen in one picture with a long sleeve blue shirt and he is carrying what appears to be a liter sized water bottle. Behind him carrying a picture roll is Samson.



They are walking on the edge of a steep drop off. If they stumbled and fell, at best it would be a painful slide over the edge. It could be fatal even in the spot where they are pictured.

Can you imagine living in the conditions we see pictured here?



I cannot. Visitors to the mountain have died of hypothermia. How do these people survive? Our hearts are touched by the situation they find themselves in.

(More pictures page 4)



Elmer's wife is sick at the present time and he has only been able to make trips with Alex there. We

have just agreed to purchase a treadle sewing machine to use to make clothes for the people. Elmer's wife and Alex' wife will make these clothes. Then they will need to be carried high up into the mountain. This must be done before the end of May as the season changes and the rain falls and the river fills. If you are on the mountain when this happens you are trapped there till the rainy season ends.

Food is a major issue. Looking at the pictures of these people you can see that the nutritional needs of the people are not met. They gather what ever they can find for food. One picture shows two women returning from a gathering expedition.



Won't you pray for these people and the PMMF Missionaries? Thank you. It means so much.



# 1124 Mt. Halcon Church and School Project



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