

Sharing the Håfa Adai Spirit with Our Visitors and Each Other

Håfa Adai Everyday

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HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE SIGNING

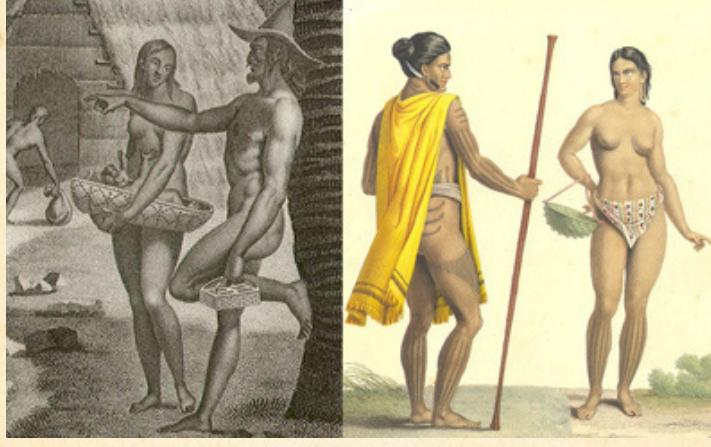


HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE SIGNING HELD NOVEMBER 24, 2015 AT KITCHEN LINGO: (L-R) Josh Tyquiengco, GVB, public information officer; Pika Fejeran, Pika's Cafe, co-owner; and Lingo Quichocho, Kitchen Lingo, chef/co-owner.

KAO UN TUNGO'?

 (Did you know?)

Physical Anthropology of Ancient Guam and the Mariana Islands



Chamorros, left, may not have practiced tattooing as the Carolinians, right, during European exploration but it does not mean they never did at one point in ancient times. J.A. Pellow and J.S. Arago/Guam Public Library System

Of the different regional groups of the Pacific, the physical anthropology of the peoples of Micronesia is probably the least studied. The overall lack of skeletal materials available for study, as well as the often poor preservation of human skeletal remains due to deterioration from long exposure in tropical climates, have contributed to the dearth of scientific studies on the physical attributes of Micronesian peoples, especially from pre-contact times.

Physical anthropology is the specialization of anthropology that examines human biology in the context of evolution, with an emphasis on the interaction between biology and culture. It often relies on, but is distinguished from archeology, which is the anthropological subdiscipline that studies the cultural artifacts and material remains from early or past societies. Modern physical anthropologists are largely concerned with biological differences expressed among various human populations as societies undergo cultural change or adapt to local environmental conditions and challenges, such as cold, heat or high altitude. Studies of the physical anthropology of Chamorros rely heavily on techniques developed in archeology and osteology, or the study of human skeletal remains. Bone biology and physiology can reveal much about the environmental challenges or physical conditions individuals or populations had to contend with over the course of one's lifetime, including physical stresses from culturally related activities, or nutritional stresses from periods of famine or disease.

The Chamorro people are believed to have originated from Southeast Asia in a wave of migration that began over 3500 years ago. Over the centuries they developed the unique culture that the Spanish eventually encountered and described in the early years of European exploration. One of the first written descriptions of the physical appearance of the Chamorro people is by Antonio Pigafetta, a crewmember on Magellan's expedition, which landed on Guam in 1521. He described the Chamorros as ...tall as we, and well-built... They are tawny but are born white. Their teeth are red and black for they think that it is most beautiful...They [the women] are good-looking and delicately formed and lighter complexioned than the men.

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<http://www.guampedia.com/physical-anthropology-of-ancient-guam-and-the-mariana-islands/>



Rice field

LIVING THE HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE

Sharing the Håfa Adai Spirit at Guam Coffee Company



Nora Abdo, RT Aunu, and Jolyn Pangelinan

The Guam Coffee Company is a family-owned business that provides a unique experience and quality coffee to the island community and its visitors while integrating cultural activities that represent Guam's Chamorro family heritage.

Local displays of artwork and music, deepened with the heartfelt greetings of a "Håfa Adai," welcome customers with a warm ambiance as they enter. Led by Nora Abdo, it is through her leadership and her team's efforts that help bring Guam Coffee Company's Håfa Adai Pledge in full circle. Their hospitality has customers not only raving about the coffee but also about their great service. Along with their "Håfa Adai" salutation, they make it a common practice to dress in island wear as part of Håfa Adai Friday and they make it a point to locally source their produce as often as they can. In addition, they also work with local organizations and small businesses by supplying coffee or special blends when requested.

GUAMPEDIA: Laura Thompson

Study of Chamorro culture

Laura Maud Thompson (1905-2000), a distinguished sociocultural anthropologist who studied peoples and cultures around the world, is best known for her comprehensive studies of the Chamorro people of Guam. If indeed the Chamorros of Guam constitute a matrilineal society, then, by virtue of her long-term affiliation with Guam and profound affinity for the Chamorro people, Thompson may be regarded as perhaps Guam's most significant intellectual mater. Her best known book, *Guam and Its People* published in 1941, 1947 and 1969, is a singular testament to her admiration and empathy for the Chamorros of Guam.



Dr. Laura Thompson was the first anthropologist to formally study the culture of the people of Guam. Photo by Laura Thompson/Rebecca Stephenson

Thompson was stationed in Hagåtña, but she soon set up field headquarters in Merizo, a village at the island's southern end. There she was assisted by two helpful Chamorro men in learning the language and initiating contact with local families. Her in-depth knowledge of Chamorro culture and society, gathered while using the classic field methodology of anthropology, i.e., participant-observation, is lively and penetrating. Her published works about Guam have been studied and admired up to the present day. In the process, Thompson gained lifelong friendships on Guam and a personal mission of being an advocate for the Chamorro people.

On her first return visit to Guam in 1977 Thompson was invited to be the keynote speaker for the Chamorro Studies Conference held at George Washington High School in Mangilao. Thompson visited Guam again in April 1987, as the University of Guam's Annual College of Arts and Sciences Research Conference keynote speaker. Her erudite presentation on that occasion, entitled "Talking Stones," appears in print and can also be viewed via videotape at the University of Guam Library. Thompson was awarded posthumously the Ancient Order of the Chamorro on Guam in recognition of her profound contributions to Guam and its people.

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The Håfa Adai Pledge seeks to continually promote Guam's unique culture by sharing the Håfa Adai Spirit and making Guam a great place to live, work, and visit!

Take the Håfa Adai Pledge today! For more information, call 646-5278 or email HafaAdai@visitguam.org.



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