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In Pursuit of Progress: Narratives of Development on a Philippine Island (Southeast Asia: Politics, Meaning, and Memory)

By Hannah C. M. Bulloch

University of Hawaii Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 260 pages. How are meta-narratives of development entangled in peoples identities and life trajectories How do they inhabit peoples histories, their understandings of their place in the world, and their dreams for the future The idea of development has been deconstructed and scrutinized as a Western metaphor ordering global difference and as a banner under which diverse schemes for societal improvement find legitimacy and common purpose. But how is development assimilated into the worldviews of developments subjects How does it reshape identities and in what ways is it reshaped in the process Drawing on a decade of ethnographic research on the Philippine island of Siquijor, In Pursuit of Progress explores myths, meanings, and practices of development and its counterparts, progress and modernization. It does so not only by considering development as planned, community-wide interventions aimed at society-wide improvements in living standards, but by recognizing that, as a cognitive tool for organizing relationships between people, development is personal. For Siquijodnon, development, or kalamboan, is also a process of self-transformation concerning changes in knowledge, body, roles, and cultural orientation. Emblems as diverse as skin color, Christianity, infant formula, and infrastructure make statements about development on Siquijor....



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