

***ADDED 4/8/10

Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f): Average male height = 5'3", average female height = 5'0". (pg. 9)

Warfare/homicide

The Ilocano are described as peaceful by early explorers (pg. 11).

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6.2 Stimulants: Tobacco had a long history of both social and medicinal uses (pg. 32).

Before catholicism stamped it out, the ancestral religion of the Ilocanos is described as being a form of spirit worship that was common to much of Island southeast Asia (pg. 61).

Source:

Porter, David Franklin. *Ilocos: A Non-Tagalog Response to Social, Political, and Economic Change*. Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms International, 1980.

1. Description

1.1 Name of society, language, and language family Ilocano; Malayo-Polynesian; Austronesian
ISO Code: ilo (1)

1.2 Location: There are four provinces of the Ilocano homeland, located on the island Luzon in the Northern Phillipines. (3)

1.3 Brief history: Linguistically, they are most related to the neighboring mountain peoples. When the Spanish first encountered them in 1572, they were living in large villages and trading with the Chinese and Japanese. The Ilocano often revolted against the Spaniards through the 1600s and 1700s. In the mid 1800s, high population density forced many Ilocanos to emigrate away from their historic homeland and into surrounding areas on Luzon. In the early 1900s some even migrated to Hawaii and California. Many Ilocano were active in the Nationalist movement, and attained positions in the central government. (3)

1.4 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors: The Ilocano's main religion is Catholicism now, which they were converted to by Spanish colonial settlers (3). However, this new religion did not radically alter existing Ilocano beliefs and practices (2, p.13).

1.5 Ecology: The Ilocano homeland is a harsh, coastal plain. (3)

1.6 Population: 6,920,000 (1)

2. Economy

2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s): Rice, corn vegetables. (2, p. 79).

2.2 Main protein-lipid sources: Fish, pork, beef (2, p. 79).

2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?: Axes, bolos, knives and daggers (2, p. 26).

2.4 Food storage: Baskets, pots, earthen jars. Food is often stored in the sirok, a fenced in area under traditional Ilocano houses (2, p. 22).

2.5 Sexual division of production: Women clean and prepare food (2, p. 86) take care of children, and do domestic chores such as cleaning the clothes and house (2, p. 99). Men are expected to provide for the family through some kind of trade, usually agriculture (2, p. 98). Women are in charge of managing the family finances. (2, pg. 173).

2.6 Land tenure:

2.7 Ceramics: Pottery is a large home industry for the Ilocano. They produce a large variety of pots, jars and vases, as well as making clay pipes and cigarette holders. In the production of these items the Ilocano use pottery wheels. They are decorated using either a special kind of red clay or they burn them with rice husks to turn them black. (2, p. 58)

2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns: Foodsharing with neighbors, close relatives and friends is common, as hospitality is highly valued. (2, p. 82)

2.9 Food taboos: Certain foods avoided during pregnancy (2, pg 93) and menstruation (pg 95).

2.10 Canoes/watercraft? Outrigger canoes.

3. Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f):

3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f):

4. Life History, mating, marriage

4.1 Age at menarche (f):

4.2 Age at first birth (m and f): As soon after marriage as possible. (2, pg. 121).

4.3 Completed family size (m and f): The average family has been 6 and 7 members, including parents. Some families are larger, but this is uncommon. (2, p. 99)

4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f): Women breastfeed their children (as a form of birthcontrol) and the average spacing between children is 2 to 3 years (2, pg. 143).

4.5 Age first marriage (m and f): Late teens, early twenties for both males and females (4, pg. 21).

4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce: Quite uncommon (4, pg. 21).

4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously: Monogamy is the prevailing pattern (2, p. 99).

4.8 Arranged marriage, bride purchase/service, dowry: Marriages parentally arranged (4, pg 21). There is dowry. (2, 165).

4.9 Inheritance patterns: Bilateral.

4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict: Both fathers and mothers share authority over their children, who are expected to obey whatever decisions are reasonably made for them, such as choosing a life partner, career, education, etc. (2, p. 100).

4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals:

4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy): Locally endogamous (4, pg. 18)

4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these “other fathers” recognized? No partible paternity. (2, pg 121)

4.14 What is the belief of the mother’s role in procreation exactly? (e.g., “receptacle in which fetus grows”) The wife “gets” the baby from her husband, then it forms and develops in her womb (2, pg 121).

4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)? Some Ilocano believe this (2, pg. 121).

4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape

4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin) Even 3rd and 4th degree cousins considered too closely related to marry (4, pg. 21).

4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms? Both men and women are expected to remain faithful to their spouses, though if a man cheats his wife is still expected to stay with him. Members of both sexes who engage in adultery and generally despised and gossiped about (2, p. 99).

4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring. No.

4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children? Eldest sibling (5, pg. 31).

4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females

According to the 1970 Census of Population and Housing, in all of the 4 Iloco provinces there were 608,295 males and 638,272 females. Ratio = .95 (2, p. 8)

4.22 Evidence for couvades

4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older)

4.24 Kin avoidance and respect?

4.24 Joking relationships?

4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations
Bilateral (4, pg. 20).

4.26 Incest avoidance rules Even 3rd and 4th degree cousins considered too closely related to marry (4, pg. 21).

4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony? Yes. (2, pg. 165)

4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name?

4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?) No preference (2, pg. 162).

Warfare/homicide

4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:

4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death: Outgroup – frequent revolts against Spanish invaders during colonization (3)

4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:

4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations): Are on friendly terms with neighboring mountain societies. (3).

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size: Range in size from large villages to mid sized towns.

5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality): Not mobile.

5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes): Informal leaders, who are respected village elders (2. Pg. 191). Status and respect are also accorded to the wealthy (2, pg 194.)

5.4 Post marital residence: Patrilocal, with some neolocal (2, p. 98).

5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense):

5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex): Young children on both sexes play together (2, pg 152). In late childhood and puberty, they spend more time with members of their own sex. Adolescent girls not allowed to be around boys unsupervised. 2, -g. 159).

5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships:

5.8 Village and house organization: Villages are split into barangays, political/social units made of about 100 to 500 families. (2, pg. 190).

5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses):

5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere? Usually sleep on mats on the floor. (2, pg 23).

5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc:

5.12 Trade: Extensive trade network with Chinese and other Asian traders (2, pg 12).

5.13 Indications of social hierarchies? Social hierarchies based on age and wealth.

6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6 Time allocation to RCR: Ilocanos have a reputation for being unusually religious (4, pg. 17).

6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine): Sorcerers are powerful men able to make others ill and even kill with sympathetic magic (2, pg. 175). There are folkhealers who use herbal remedies and rituals to heal (2, pg. 229).

6.2 Stimulants:

6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal):

6.4 Other rituals:

6.5 Myths (Creation): The origin myth of the Ilocano says that a giant named Aran built the sky and everything in it, and another giant named Angalo molded the land. Angalo's spit became the first man and woman, and he tossed them into the sea floating in a bamboo tube. They landed on the shore of Luzon and became the Ilocano people (2, pg 10).

6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games):

6.7 Sex differences in RCR: Most folk healers are men (2, pg. 230).

6.8 Missionary effect: Ilocano are now catholic.

6.9 RCR revival:

6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs: The body of the dead person is kept in the house for at least 24 hours. Time of death is considered significant to remaining family – predicts either good or bad fortune. The coffin must be made to fit exactly, or another death will soon occur. Some money is put with the body so that the spirit can afford to be transported across the river that separates the living from the dead. Vigil is kept over the body until the funeral. Before the funeral, family members kiss the body's hands or forehead. (2, pgs 176-185).

6.11 Taboo of naming dead people? No.

6.12 Is there teknonymy?

6.13 Animism? Yes (4, pg. 22).

7. Adornment

7.1 Body paint:

7.2 Piercings:

7.3 Haircut: Older woman wear their hair in a bun. Men keep their hair short and apply pomade on special occasions (3).

7.4 Scarification:

7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.):

7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment: Shoes are only worn during important social activities (2, pg. 21).

7.7 Sex differences in adornment: Yes. Men and women dress differently.

7.8 Missionary effect: Clothing is fairly westernized.

7.9 Cultural revival in adornment:

8. Kinship systems

8.1 Sibling classification system: Eldest sibling have authority over younger ones (2, pg. 103).

8.2 Sororate, levirate: No.

8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.): Kin terminology is mainly generational. No distinction made between cross and parallel cousins. (4, pg. 20)

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

Numbered references

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4. LeBar, Frank M., ed. *Ethnic Groups of Insular Southeast Asia*. Vol. 2, *The Philippines and Formosa*. New Haven, Conn.: Human Relations Area Files Press, 1972
5. Dube, Leela, *Women and Kinship: Comparative Perspectives on Gender in South and South-East Asia*. Tokyo, Japan: United Nations University Press, 1997.