

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

THE "ENKANTO" BELIEF SYSTEM AND ITS FUNCTIONS
IN NASUGBU, BATANGAS

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ABSTRACT

The study concerns itself with the prevailing "engkanto" belief system in Nasugbu, Batangas. This is an explorative-descriptive research, that sought to look into the status of what the prevailing "engkanto" belief is in the area of study and its functions in the lives of those who ascribe to it. Detailed accounts were recorded from which the information was used for analysis. In choosing the respondents, a Key Informant Qualification Guide was utilized. The KIQG contained characteristics necessary to select the respondents needed to generate the important data. The interview was conducted with the aid of an Interview Guide. The Interview Guide was chosen because it was less structured and provided the researchers the flexibility to ask questions not provided in the guide, but were equally important. This method of using the Interview Guide provided the researchers a richer account of the said belief system. The information collected was then analyzed with the use of content analysis. In the content analysis, information was categorized into Habitat, Characteristics, Hierarchy and Types of "Engkantos" in General. It was further sub-categorized into Features, Habitat, Powers and Cures. In the conclusion the researchers found out that the respondents' descriptions of the "engkanto" were consistent with very little variations. As for the functions, it was found out that certain functions were not apparent to the respondents, the functions were latent rather than manifest.

