

MUSIC AS AN ENERGY SOURCE

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How the power supply affects the community

The people of Talim Island were used to frequent brownouts and fluctuation of power supply, affecting the entire island's livelihood and domestic necessities. One can only admire the people's readiness during these circumstances. They easily adjust to the situation when the power supply runs off. There are deep wells for an alternative source of potable water, firewood for cooking, and gas lamps to light their homes.

On the other hand, merchants have taken advantage of the situation. They bought lake commodities for less than the actual market value. But that is more essential because of the unavailability of cold storage for their catches.

Education



Internet access is an advantage to students in mainland schools compared to the island. School buildings in every *barangay* have provisions by the local government. Here, they rely only on books provided for them as research materials. Fortunately, the students here are focused on their studies and other school activities.

Not all *barangays* in Talim Island have their own school. At least three or more share the same school grounds. Since the island is composed of lake shores, up-hills, and forests, the students walk thru trails with boulders of stone along the lakeside and others crossed the rugged up-hills.



Health

In the 1970s, the entire island was equipped with a floating clinic, with a doctor and health aid staff. They would rove around servicing not only the sick but orienting the healthy on how to prevent sickness. Unfortunately, for whatever reason, the floating clinic was abolished. That was merely assessed as a political decision.

As of now, there is only one small hospital located in *Barangay Subay*, but not sufficient enough to do the hospital operations. There have been many reported incidents wherein patients died during their way to the hospital, travelling by boat.



With the help of the Department of Health (DOH), a possible Dengue outbreak was prevented by giving full Dengue vaccinations to schoolchildren. Dengue is a very common illness during the rainy season. The DOH also encouraged the inhabitants to plant root crops, vegetables, and fruit trees, and reaped whatever they sowed. Feeding programs have been also of great help as much as the medical missions.



Island Festivals

The natives of Talim Island are mostly Catholics. The annual thanksgiving festival is held every 29th of June. Since fishing became the main source of living, they believe that they could get a good harvest for a year if they celebrated the feast of St. Peter, the patron saint of the fisherman.

The Mission continues...

Ang Misyon continues extending their magnanimous support through Global Giving by giving free music lessons and free snacks. The attitudes of the Orchestra of the Talim Island Youth's members have positively improved if compared to the time we organized the group, when they were full of fear & insecurity. We have infused self-discipline, boosted their morale, and continually teach the children how to dream big. We are looking forward to more moments when we can change another child's life!