



The Making of Philippine Flag

FERNANDO AMORSOLO

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Author's Background

Fernando Amorsolo

- ❖ He was known as the ***National Artist of the Philippines***.
- ❖ Born on May 30, 1892 at Paco Maynila.
- ❖ His parents are Pedro Amorsolo and Bonifacia Cueto.
- ❖ Amorsolo was a portraitist and painter of rural Philippine landscapes. He is popularly known for his craftsmanship and mastery in the use of light.



Awards

- **1908** - 2nd Prize, Bazar Escolta te and taki (Association Internacional de Artistas), for Levendo Periodico
- **1922** - 1st Prize, Commercial and Industrial Fair in the Manila Carnival
- **1929** - 1st Prize, New York's World Fair, for Afternoon Meal of Rice Workers
- **1940** - Outstanding University of the Philippines Alumnus award
- **1959** - Gold Medal, UNESCO National Commission
- **1961**- Rizal Pro Patria Award
- **1961**- Honorary Doctorate in the humanities from the Far Eastern University



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- In 1972, Fernando Amorsolo became the first Filipino to be distinguished as the Philippine's National Artist in Painting. He was named as the “**Grand Old Man of the Philippine Art**”.
 - Died on April 24, 1972 at the age of 79 in Quezon City



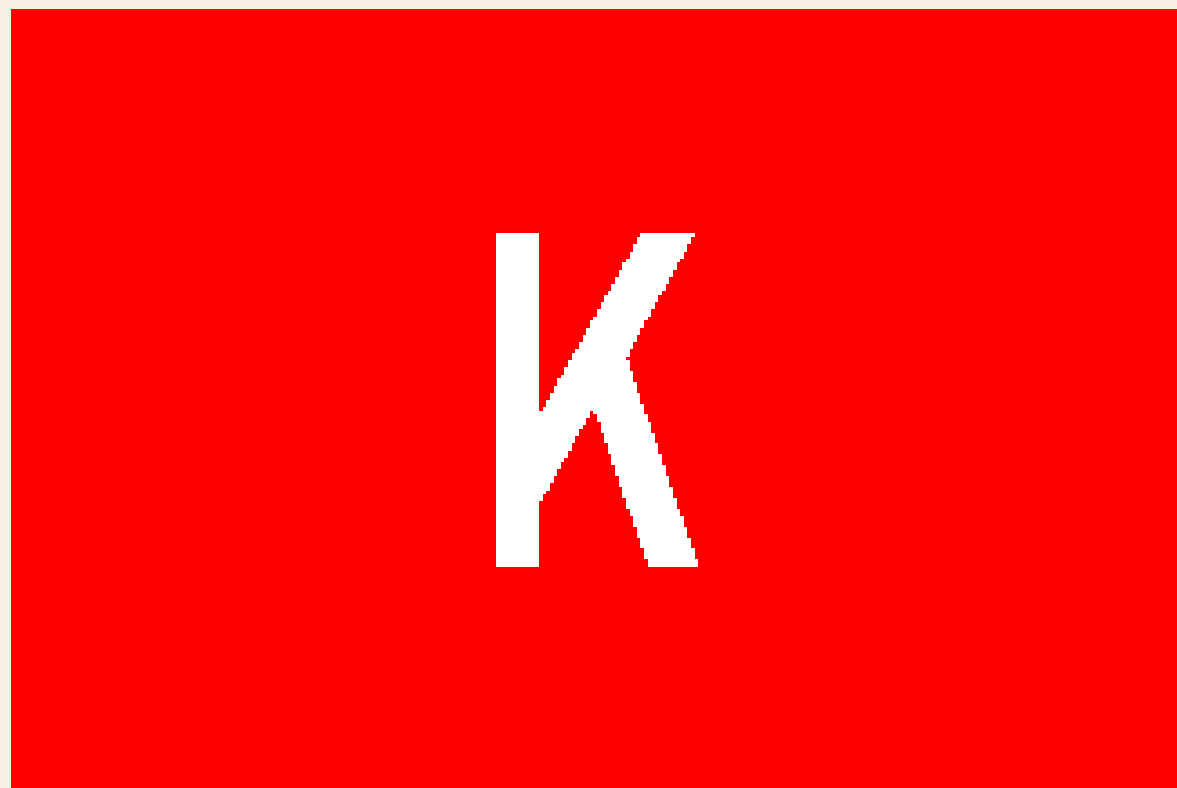
Amorsolo in Philippines. Fernando Amorsolo was one of the most important artists in the history of painting in the Philippines. No doubt he created such a wonderful artwork. The painting shows three women namely Marcella Marino de Agoncillo (on the right side) refer as the mother of the Philippine flag, with the help of Lorenza and Delfina Herbosa de Natividad which is actually the daughter of Marcela. They was tasked by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo to sew the first flag for the new republic. The clothes that the women are wearing are an older style, more vintage and really depict the traditional styles. The skirts the women's are wearing are

The First KKK (**Kataastaasan at Kagalangalang Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan** , The Honorable Society of the Sons of the Nation) Flag (1892) with the establishment of the Katipunan, Andres Bonifacio requested his wife, Gregoria De Jesus, and with the help of Bonita Rodriguez to create a flag for the society. De Jesus created a simple red flag bearing the society's acronym, KKK. In white and arranged horizontally at the center of a rectangular piece of red cloth (locally called "kundiman"). The color red represents the blood and courage of the Katipuneros who stood ready to fight for freedom and shed their blood if need be. This was the flag which was developed during the "First Cry of Nationhood" at the district of North Manila in August 1896. This was the first official flag of the society.

The Katipunan Flag (1892- 1897)



KKK



Early Katipunan One-K Flag

In some areas, only one white letter K was positioned on a rectangular piece of red cloth.

The Second Katipunan Flag(1892)



Some members of the Katipunan used other variations. A red flag with the three white letter Ks arranged triangle, a shape prominent in Philippine revolutionary imagery, at the center of the rectangular field.

Andres Bonifacio “**The Father of Katipunan**” , had a personal flag which represents a white sun with an indefinite number of rays on a field of red. Below the sun are three white Ks arranged horizontally. This flag was first shown on August 23, 1896 during the Cry of Pugad Lawin where the Katipuneros gathered to their cedulas (poll tax certificates) in rebelliousness of Spanish authority. The flag was used later during the Battle of San Juan del Monte on August 30, 1896, the first major battle of the Philippine Revolution. This was also used by the war camp of Bonifacio, the “ Great Plebian” (Dakialng Anak Pawis”)

Andres Bonifacio's Flag (1892)

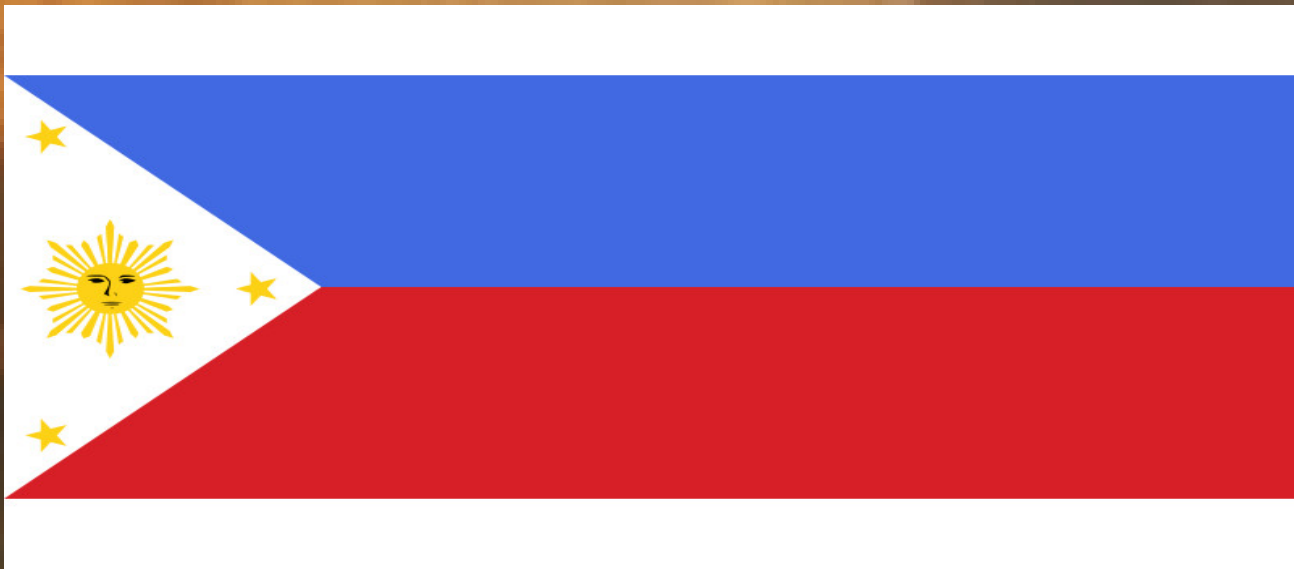


The Revolutionary Government



The leaders of the Katipunan decided to fight under Aguinaldo's banner. Aside from being formally educated, Aguinaldo was winning his battles while Bonifacio was struck by a number of losses. For this same reason, Aguinaldo's flag was said to have become the basis for the design of the new flag of the revolutionary government - the Sun of Liberty. This same revolutionary government was responsible for ordering the execution of Andres Bonifacio. Bonifacio was charged with treason for inciting rebellion against the new government.

The flag was approved on March 17, 1897 in Naic, Cavite.



During Aguinaldo's exile in Hong Kong, he and the Junta Patriotica or the Patriotic Council devised what is to be known as the flag to represent the first Philippine republic. The flag was sewn by Marcela Agoncillo, Lorenza Agoncillo, and Delfina Natividad. It was sewn at 353 Morrison Hill, Hong Kong. This same flag was the flag raised during the declaration of the Philippine independence in Kawit, Cavite, on June 12, 1898. Unlike the present day flag, the original flag had a mythological sun with a face, similar to the flag flown by the revolutionary government.

By the fall of the first Philippine republic and when the American colonial power took control of the islands, sedition laws took into effect that banned the display of the flag of the first republic. It was until 1919 when the ban was lifted

The flag retained the dimensions of the Aguinaldo's flag as well as the Mythological sun, but without a face. Historians believe that the original flag used the red and blue colors of the Cuban flag and was changed to the American colors since the American colors were the only cloth colors available during the era.

In 1936, the Philippines became a Commonwealth of the United States of the America. By executive order, Commonwealth President Manuel L. Quezon specified the dimensions of the flag which became the standardized specification of the flag followed up to the present.



Explanation of the Philippine Flag

Each part of the Philippine Flag has a specific meaning as follows:

- ❖ The **white triangle** with equal sides of the flag is symbolic of equality among men.
- ❖ The **white fields** stands for purity.
- ❖ The **sun** stands for the gigantic strides that have been made by the Sons of the land on the road to progress and civilization.
- ❖ The **eight rays of the sun** in the triangle represent the first eight united provinces that revolted for independence- Batangas, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, Manila, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga and Tarlac.
- ❖ The **three stars** in the triangle stand for the three major geographical divisions of the country which are Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.
- ❖ The **red fields** symbolizes the eagerness of the Filipino people to shed blood in defence for their country
- ❖ The **blue fields** stands for peace, truth, and justice.

Sources



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- ❑ [Inq7.Net. "Ople Urges Putting Ninth Ray in Flag for Quezon Province". http://www.inq7.net/. August 20, 2003.](http://www.inq7.net/)



Thank You!

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