

Through prayer the fishermen of Leyte and Samar also procure God's help in fishing. This is the Christian addition to the fish ritual. Since St. Peter was a fisherman his help is especially called for. Before a fisherman in Caibiran goes to the sea he prays to St. Peter in the following way: "St. Peter have mercy on me that I may be able to have a good catch today."

On All Souls Day fishermen expect a big haul, because on this day all their deceased relatives and friends will be helping them. The souls of the deceased in return expect a good meal at the cemetery or at home, a custom very common in Leyte and Samar. Here Christian and animistic elements are interwoven.

**Conclusion.**—The animistic elements in the fishing ritual of Leyte and Samar show that ancient Filipino culture is heavily influenced by the South-east Asian culture. The pagan and Mohammedan fishermen in Malaya and Indonesia have similar practices in their fishing ritual.

The old animistic fishing ritual in the Philippines is on the way out. In towns and barrios closely related to the Church and well instructed in Catholic doctrine this fishing ritual is about forgotten, but it lives on as a reminder of the past in the religiously more neglected districts of Leyte and Samar.

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