

Ancient Burials

Ancient Filipinos also show their artistry in form of burials. They made ancient jars and coffins. The jars design was very detailed. The curves and lines was very beautiful. In my opinion, i think, they made each jars very detailed and meaningful, they add some drop of love, share their creative hand and artistic mind for their loved ones, they express their love to their dead relative by making their coffin or jar beautiful. A characteristic of the jars for the dead is the presence of anthropomorphic human figures on the pot covers. There are also figures of boating people steering paddles, wearing headbands, jaw-bands, and persons with hands folded across the chest area. This jars and coffins will show how artistic early Filipinos are.

When a person dies in the Philippines, Christian Filipinos - such as Catholics that include the Tagalog people - generally hold a wake known as *lamay* or *paglalamay*, a vigil that typically lasts for five to seven nights, but may last longer if the surviving family is waiting for someone who will be traveling from afar. During this time, the cleaned and embalmed-body of the dead, placed in a coffin, is displayed at the house of deceased or at a funeral home.

There are also regional customs that filipino practices during burials.

1. The Apayaos, also known as the Isnags or Isnags, of the Cordillera Administrative Region bury the deceased person under the kitchen area of their homes.
2. For eight days, the indigenous people from Benguet blindfold the dead and then sit it on a chair that is placed next to a house's main entrance. The arms and legs are held in the sitting position by means of tying. A *bangil* rite is performed by the elders on the eve of the funeral, which is a chanted narration of the biography of the deceased. During interment, the departed is directed towards heaven by hitting bamboo sticks together.
3. Palaweno customs- One of the ancient customs for burying the dead in the Philippines is through the use of burial jars known as Manunggul jars. These ancient potteries were found in the Manunggul Cave at the island of Palawan. A characteristic of the jars for the dead is the presence of anthropomorphic human figures on the pot covers. These figures embody souls riding a boat for the dead while seafaring towards their sanctuary in the afterlife. These containers have been dated to be from 710 BC to 890 BC. There are also figures of boating people steering paddles, wearing headbands, jaw-bands, and persons with hands folded across the chest area. The latter is a method of arranging the remains of the dead.

Other similar anthropomorphic jars were also found at Pinol (also spelled as Piñol), Maitum, in the Saranggani Province of the island of Mindanao. These funeral jars dates back from the Metal Age.



These are jars and coffins from the ancient filipinos.



The body of the dead will be placed here.



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