## **BRIEFY HISTORY OF MAGUINDANAO**



Maguindanao was derived from the two word "maginged" and "danaw" which means people of the marshy or people of the flooded plains. In the early 1400 traders from the nearby Malay states traded with the Maguindanaons and influenced the culture of the region. It is believed that Islam first came to the region in 1460, with the arrival of Sharif Awliya, who married a

Maguindanaon.

The introduction of Islam and its institution has been credited to Sheriff Mohammed Kabungsuwan, a Johore Muslim who established the Sultanate of Maguindanao sometime in 1515.

Over the years, several Sultanates were established to rule over the region, the most significant of which are the Sultanates of Cotabato, Buayan and Kabuntalan.





The Spaniards tried to conquer Maguindanao as early as 1596 but were thwarted by the stiff resistance of the Maguindanaos.

From 1600-1650, the Sultan of Maguindanao, Sultan Mohammad Dipatuan Kudarat, expanded the realm subject to the Maguindanao Sultanate

and its height of power, it held over the

region from the Gulf of Davao all the way to Dapitan. Upon his death, however, the sultanate was fragmented into several rivals' sultanates and towards the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Maguindanao power had waned considerably.





In 1851, Spanish forces attacked and seized Polloc. A naval base was established in the town and in 1854 a separate politico-military district was created. In 1861 following more expeditions by the Spaniards, the Sultan of Maguindanao recognized Spanish sovereignty. Resistance continued in the Upper Pulangi directed by Datu Utto by superior Spanish arms, allowed the Spaniards to remain in Maguindanao until 1899. In that year following

the evacuation of the Spanish forces from the region, Upper Pulangi datus attacked and occupied Cotabato until the Americans arrived.

The district of Cotabato was created in 1860 following the reorganization of Spanish



government in Mindanao. In 1903, following the establishment of the Moro Province. Cotabato become one of its districts. Maguindanao by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 341 continued to be part of the province of Cotabato until November 1973 when the province was divided into three provinces: Maguindanao, North Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat.

The Province of Maguindanao was once part of the empire Province of Cotabato when there were less emigrants from Luzon and Visayas, this empire was inhabited by Bangsamoro People and known as the

Moro Province. In 1967, by virtue of Congressional Act, the empire Province of Cotabato was divided into two (2) provinces, Cotabato and South Cotabato. The late president Ferdinand Edralin Marcos, through Presidential Decree 341, on November 22, 1973, again divided Province into three (3) provinces. The province of Maguindanao, North Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat.

## HISTORY OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF MAGUINDANAO



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The newly separated Maguindanao Province was administered by then Governor Atty. Simon A. Datumanong, followed by atty. Zacaria A. Candao. On April 1, 1977, resigned and President Marcos appointed Mayor Datu Sanggacala M. Baraguir of Sultan Kudarat Municipality as Governor. In his capacity as Governor of Maguindanao, he transferred the provincial seat from Maganoy (now Shariff Aguak) to Sultan Kudarat Municipality as embodied in Presidential Decree No. 1170 dated July 7, 1977. The fourth appointed governor of Maguindanao was Atty. Sandiale A. Sambulawan. On January 1980 elections, he won as the first elected provincial governor. He returned the seat of the office to Shariff Aguak.

In 1986, President Marcos was forced to leave the country thru "EDSA Revolution". Corazon C. Aquino was installed as the new President of the Republic of the Philippines. Upon assumption to office, she appointed Atty. Zacaria A. Candao as Governor of Maguindanao on April 5, 1986 and concurrent Chairman of Lupong Tagapagpaganap Pampook (LTP). Governor Candao was elected as Governor in 1989.

When the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao was created, by virtue of republic Act No. 6734, Governor Candao resigned and won for the position of Regional Governor of the ARMM. He was succeeded by his then Vice Governor Norodin A. Matalam. Governor Matalam was elected as Governor in 1992. During the 1995 election, Atty. Zacaria A. Candao won the governorship. He was re-elected in May 1998.

During the May 14, 2001 elections, Datu Andal S. Ampatuan Sr. won as the fifth elected Governor of Maguindanao. Under his administration, the development thrust of the province anchored on food security, health, infrastructure, and peace and order.

During the May 14, 2004 election, Governor Datu Andal S. Ampatuan, Sr. was elected defeating former Congressman Datu Guimid P. Matalam in the gubernatorial race for the

Province of Maguindanao but resigned in 2008 and was succeeded by his son, then Vice Governor Datu Sajid Islam U. Ampatuan.

In connection with the Maguindanao Massacre on November 23, 2009, the governorship of Maguindanao was vacated by then Governor Ampatuan. On December 21, 2009, the Department of the Interior and Local Government issued a Memorandum Order appointing Hon. Bai Nariman A. Ambolodto as Vice Governor of Maguindnao. She ended her term as Acting Governor on February 22, 2010. On February 23, 2010, the Regional Governor Ansaruddin A. Adiong appointed Datu Gani O. Biruar as Governor of Maguindanao. He turned-over the governorship of Maguindanao to Governor elect Esmael G. Mangudadatu From July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2019, Esmael G. Mangudadatu assumed his post as the 6<sup>th</sup> elected Governor of the Province of Maguindanao. He transferred the seat of governance from Shariff Aguak to Buluan, Maguindanao as per Provincial Ordinance No. 12 series of 2014. His administration was guided by his eight (8) point development agenda: Restoration of Peace and Order, Transparent, Accountable and Participative Governance, Poverty Reduction Program, Infrastructure Development, Parallel Support to Madaris and Secular Education, Equal Access to Health Services, Environment Management Program and Revenue Generation.

In the May 13, 2019 mid-term elections, Hon. Bai Mariam Sangki Mangudadatu won as



the first elected Lady Governor of the Province of Maguindanao. Her governance thrusts is guided by the 10 point Socio Economic Development Agenda which was from her the derived slogan MAKABAGONG Maguindanao" a.) Masiglang Kabuhayan, b) Agrikulturang Masagana, c) Kalusugan at Kaaalamang Sapat, d) Angkop Imprastraktura, e) Bayang Malinis, Alertona na f) Komunidad, g) Gobyernong May Puso at Malasakit, h) Oportunidad para sa lahat, i) Nagbibigay ng Pantay at Sapat na Seguridad, j). Ginhawa at Kapayapaang Pangmatagalan.

During the May 9, 2022 elections, Governor Bai Mariam Sangki Mangudadatu still won as Governor of the Province of Maguindanao.

## **DIVISION OF MAGUINDANAO**

In May 27, 2021, then President Rodrigo Duterte signed Republic Act. 11550, the law dividing Maguindanao a province under the Bangsamoro region.

The Maguindanao division plebiscite was held in the province of Maguindanao on September 17, 2022.

Which then resulted to the creation of the new two Province namely; Maguindanao del Sur and Maguindanao del Norte.

Subsequently, the new province Maguindanao del Norte has 12 municipalities: Barira, Buldon, Datu Blah Sinsuat, Datu OdinSinsuat, Kabuntalan, Matanog, Northern Kabuntalan, Parang, North Upi, Sultan Kudarat, Sultan Mastura and Talitay. Its capital is Datu Odin Sinsuat. Furthermore, the new Maguindanao del Sur has 24 municipalities: Ampatuan, Buluan, Datu Abdullah Sangki, Datu Anggal Midtimbang, Datu Hoffer, Datu Montawal, Datu Paglas, Datu Piang, Datu Salibo, Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Datu Unsay, Gen. Salipada K. Pendatun, Guindulungan, Mamasapano, Mangudadatu, Pagalungan, Paglat, Pandag, Rajah Buayan, Shariff Aguak, Sharif Saydona Mustafa, Sultan sa Barongis, Talayan, and South Upi. Siting Buluan as its Capital.

With the ratification, elected Maguindanao Governor Bai Mariam Mangudadatu serves as Governor of Maguindanao del Sur.

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