

Cawaon, N. B. (2000). *Crime and punishment as depicted in Cordillera tales*.  
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## **ABSTRACT**

Varied crimes are being committed in the Cordillera Region of which people in authority delve t find solutions in lessening if not eradicating such societal problems.

It is in this context that this study proposed to delineate the crimes and punishments in the selected Cordillera tales. Specifically, its main purpose was to find out the causes of crimes, the punishments or sanctions accorded, the response of the characters involved and the literary techniques used in depicting them.

This study basically used the descriptive method, supplemented by library research. Other approaches were used such as: the formalistic approach which identifies the various elements of the tales and arrived at a total framework; the realities in the tales were analyzed through the use of the sociological method; the realities presented received varied responses thus, the physiological approach is employed; Finally, the exponential approach was greatly utilized in extracting the different themes in the selected tales.

## **Findings**

From the analysis and discussion of the fifteen selected tales, the following findings were deduced:

1. The Cordillera depicts a culture that recognizes the existence of crime such as stealing, trickery, jealousy, revenge, pestering, unreciprocated love, physical injuries, and murder.

2. That because of the commission of these crimes, there are levied punishments based on societal laws.

3. The punishments to these crimes maybe lessened or completely eradicated if the offender comes to a point of compromise with the one offended.

4. Those in power can levy punishment fashioned in their whims.

5. In the commission of such crimes, alibis are used by women as revealed in the tales.

6. People in the Cordilleras at times commit crimes because of their inability to understand societal laws, thus leading them to commit such act.

## **Conclusions**

From the findings several conclusions were drawn:

1. The causes of crimes in the Cordillera ranged from jealousy, greed, anger, unreciprocated love, lust to ignorance of the law.

2. Punishments levied on these crimes were the following: changing of human existence to plant existence, death and fines.

3. The response to crimes were varied: acceptance of the punishment levied; revenge, peace pacts and submission to the will of the offended.

4. The literary devices used to depict the crime were: use of character and characterization, use of symbols, use of theme and use of dialogue.

## **Recommendations**

The finding and conclusions led to the following recommendations:

1. More parallel studies be made on ethnic literature in the different parts of the Philippines.

2. Ethnic literatures in its varied genres be included in the literature programs of high school and college.

3. The language of these Ethnic Literature be researched on as part of the Socio-pragmatic field.

4. A comparative study be made on depicted Ethnic literature of different places.

5. Motivation, alibis, and crimes as depicted in literature be studied.

6. Patterns of Plot Structure in ethnic literature be studied.

7. The changes in the justice system as depicted in the tales may also be another field of research.

