

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

The campaign not only aims to raise awareness regarding the plight of the peasants on poverty and rights violations but also to address these through collective action. *Join our activities and make your voice heard!*

FEB
APR

Manilakbayan

Solidarity Camp
Dialogue with National Government Agencies
Solidarity Immersions
Legislative Advocacy
Cultural Events
Schools & Churches Forum + Photo Exhibit
Women Peasants for One Billion Rising + Intl Women's Day

MAY
AUG

International Solidarity and Mercy Mission

Environmental Investigative Mission
Human Rights Situation Fact-Finding Mission
Congressional On-Site Hearing on worsening economic situation in Northern Samar
CHR On-Site Hearing and Investigation
Ecumenical Seminarians Exposure Program
Youth Exposure Program

NOV
DEC

Human Rights Day

Yolanda Anniversary Commemoration
Dialogue with Provincial Government
International Human Rights Day



Let us support the very people who bring food to our tables!



Torture, arbitrary arrests, death threats, damaging of crops and forced labor – these are only but few of the countless and massive human rights violations suffered by us farmers of Northern Samar in a systemic torment inflicted by the government itself.



We have no lands to till, no government support and services for farmers and fisherfolks. Cocout farmlands are infested with cocolisap. Abaca is infested with bunchy-top virus. People who are trying to start a new life in the countryside cannot live in peace because of intense military operations. It is like we are struck between purgatory and hell.



For the past months we pleaded for government intervention, but little did we know that militarization will be the government's response. The Provincial government in connivance with the AFP's 803rd Infantry Brigade carried out a massive troop deployment that resulted to our brothers, sisters and families victimized by state troops.



We, now stand united in demanding from the government what is due to us: assistance and most importantly, respect for our basic human rights. And we need your support. Our situation requires our tangible and vigorous shared deed that is to:

SUPPORT US!



JOIN OUR ACTIVITIES

Join and enjoin others to participate in our activities. Sponsor forums, photo exhibits and other activities that will shed light on the objectives of the farmers' campaign. Be a volunteer!



#STANDWITHSAMAR

Let us make use of the social media platform for meaningful purpose and amplify our calls to make our issues known. Proactively post and share content that will help send our message to the whole world.



DONATE

Financial and materials donations are welcome.

STAND WITH **SAMAR**



BACKGROUND

Northern Samar is a rich province in many ways. It is one of the three provinces in Samar island. It has a total land area of 349,800 hectares and is composed of 24 municipalities and 569 barangays.



RICH MINERALS

High-value minerals such as Bauxite and Chromite have high deposits in the province. Other minerals include coral, adobe, salt, gravel, earth, boulders and cobbles.



COCONUT PRODUCER

58% of Northern Samar's land area is devoted to agriculture. Northern Samar has 16.8 million coconut trees planted or a staggering 32.4 percent of the total number in Eastern Visayas.



ABUNDANT FISHERIES

Meanwhile, twenty (20) out of the province's 24 municipalities are situated along the coasts. As of 2017, a total of 19,592 fisher-folks, 265 fish vendors, 55 fish traders, and 92 active fisherfolk cooperatives were recorded by the government.



TOP ABACA OUTPUT

3.37 kilotonnes of abaca produced from January to June 2016. This accounts to a massive 65 percent of the total 5.16 kilotonnes produced by the region from January to June 2016.

The unproportionality of the province's abundance and its people's poverty on the flipside, begs the question as to how such injustice is systematically carried out to the people.



An impoverished people on a resource-rich land

Despite the province's innate richness, the people of Northern Samar remain poor

POVERTY

Northern Samar ranks ninth among the poorest provinces in the country along with Eastern Samar (2nd) and Western Samar (10th). Nearly 6 out of 10 Nortehanon are considered "poor" by the government, or a 56.2 percent poverty incidence rate among the population.

Further, PSA figures on annual average family income show that a family in Northern Samar earns a gross amount of PhP 80,114 or PhP 222.50 per day (2008) which is way below the PhP235,000 annual average income (PhP653 in a day) in the whole country on the same year. Philippine independent think-tank IBON Foundation has computed that the cost of decent living per day in the country is pegged at Php1,088 a far shot from the measly Php222.50/day estimated average family income in the province.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Poverty incidence does not remain as numbers but evidently mirrors how the people hardly access quality basic social services.

Government data in 2010 show that in every 10 Nortehanon (5 years old and above), only 6 enroll in elementary, only 3 manage to enter highschool and only 1 end up as degree holder. And even if they do avail basic education, quality of education is also compromised as evidenced by the low performance of Northern Samar in the National Achievement Test in the secondary level (RDP). Across provinces, Northern Samar had the highest maternal mortality rate at 173 per 100,000 livebirths in 2014 and under-five mortality rates at 17 deaths per 1,000 livebirths (DOH VIII).

MILITARIZATION

As anti-people & pro-corporate programs heighten, people's resistance becomes inevitable. Recently, NSSFA led massive mobilizations demanding action from the government. However, the corrupt government, hellbent on earning millions from the people's misery deployed the military to farming communities to quell public dissent instead of providing them assistance that is due to them after all.

As such, countless human rights violations have been committed by troops of the AFP's 8th Infantry Division against the people of Northern Samar. One case is in Brgy. San Miguel of Las Navas town where the military has disrupted classes when they camped inside the school premises, and in other public facilities such as the Barangay Hall and health center. Torture, arbitrary arrests, death threats, ramaging of crops and forced labor are only but few of the human rights violations committed by these blood thirsty military men masquerading as heroes when they face the press.