The Transformation of NCR
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**Brief Background**

Metropolitan Manila commonly known as Metro Manila, the National Capital Region (NCR) of the Philippines, is the seat of government and the most populous region and metropolitan area of the country which is composed of the country's capital, the City of Manila, and the cities of Caloocan, Las Piñas, Makati, Malabon, Mandaluyong, Marikina, Muntinlupa, Navotas, Parañaque, Pasay, Pasig, Quezon City, San Juan, Taguig, and Valenzuela, as well as the Municipality of Pateros.

The region is the center of culture, economy, education, and government of the Philippines.
Brief Background

The area of Metropolitan Manila was already settled before the Spanish came. The Austronesians who displaced the aboriginal Negritos, traded and received goods and peoples from its Asian neighbors. Thus the area possessed many labels according to the varying cultures that interacted with it before the Spanish came. Metro Manila is composed of almost all the cultural groups of the Philippines. The indigenous people of the area now known as Metro Manila were the Tagalogs. Other native ethnic groups of the Philippines also inhabit the metropolis as a result of migration. The include the Visayans, Bicolanos, Kapampangan, Ilocanos, Pangasinan, and Moro groups (mostly Maranao and Maguindanao). Tribal groups such as the Igorot and the Bajau have also settled. There are also numerous peoples of Chinese, Japanese, and Indian descent. Resident Spaniards, Americans, and Koreans are also present in large numbers. Metro Manila is classified as a social urban conglomerate, meaning, it is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world.
Festivals

Caracol sa Makati

Caracol Festival as it is celebrated every third Sunday of January in Makati’s central business district, underneath the glitter and spectacle, the festival is in a way unique among Philippine fiestas since it honors Mother Nature and urges for preservation of her bountiful gifts.
Festivals

Sambalilo Festival

The Sambalilo Festival is one of the most anticipated festival in celebration for the founding of the City of Parañaque

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Festivals

Bocaue River Festival

The Bocaue River Festival is an annual celebration held every first Sunday of July in Bocaue, Bulacan, in the Philippines, in honor of the Holy Cross, the Mahal na Poon ng Krus sa Wawa, found in the river in the 1800s. The festivities involve a decorated pagoda on top of a barge surrounded by small boats accompanying it. A replica of the holy cross is placed at the top of the pagoda.

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Pahiyas Festival

The Pahiyas Festival is celebrated every year on May 15 in Lucban, Quezon. It is in honor of San Isidro Labrador, the patron saint of farmers in the Philippines. Lucban is situated at the foot of Mount Banahaw.
Feast of the Black Nazarene

Is a religious festival and one that focuses on a life-sized statue of Christ with dark skin. The wooden statue is paraded around the town in a lively procession on the day of the feast.