



Know our island. Know our history. Click to know! — Volume IV, Issue XII.

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# “Biba Chamoru” Exhibition Opens in Spain



With two of Guampedia’s short documentaries featured, the [National Museum of Anthropology](#) (NMOA) extended an invitation to Guampedia’s managing director, Rita Nauta, to attend the opening of the *Biba Chamoru* exhibition in Madrid in November.

Spanish officials from the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Defense were on hand at the opening ceremonies, to include Rear Admiral Santiago Barber, who visited Guam last March as King Philippe IV’s emissary. Barber welcomed Nauta, saying that her visit “...

marked the opportunity to re-start, reinforce and develop a nice relationship, fruit of our common roots of centuries well into the future.”

In addition to the University of Guam and the Governor of Guam’s representatives, the Guam Preservation Trust (GPT) and Traditions Affirming Our Seafaring Ancestry (TASA) also attended, as they also contributed to the exhibition as members of Guam’s *Estoriâ-ta* Commission.

Nauta said that being on hand for the opening of the *Biba Chamoru* exhibition was truly an

honor. “It was wonderful to see the Marianas grace the exhibit halls of the NMOA,” Nauta said, “and even more so to witness the interest of museum visitors in our shared history and CHamoru/Chamorro culture.”

The NMOA exhibition is part of a program series for the 500th commemoration of the Magellan/Elcano circumnavigation of the earth - featuring some of the places and people that the expedition visited and showcasing the connections forged over the centuries.

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Along with the NMOA, two of the University of Guam Spanish professors, Drs. Carlos Madrid and David Atienza, were part of the exhibition's central planning committee. Madrid also served as curator for this multimedia exhibition, highlighting historical periods of the Marianas archipelago, and focusing on several main identity traits and various artistic expressions of the Chamorro/CHamoru culture. Although the exhibition text is in Spanish, QR codes for English text are included.

Seeing the exhibit with a Chamorro/CHamoru perspective, the items that were on display for the Marianas during Spain's exposition in 1887 were most compelling. From the wood carvings replicating some of the *lancho* (ranch) tools utilized by Chamorros/CHamorus at the time, visitors can see the fine work in the machetes with embossed leather sheaths, to the intricately braided coconut fiber rope. Visitors can make out the inscriptions on the *dudo* (ladle). It's hard to believe that the woven fans and *doga* (slippers) are more than 130 years old, Nauta said, as they are well preserved.

The *Biba Chamoru* exhibition will be featured until March 6, 2022, in commemoration of the

first European encounter with the Chamorros/CHamorus of the Marianas. Guampedia is collaborating with UOG, GPT and TASA to coordinate a cultural heritage program to be featured leading up to the exhibition closing. Spain and NMOA's quincentennial commemoration will culminate in November 2022 - when the historic voyage successfully returned to Spain.



# Gifts on Guampedia

December is here and, in no time, it will be Christmas! We here at Guampedia wanted to share some of our customer favorites and unique finds on our online gift shop! Guampedia's online gift shop offers an array of products made by cultural producers and a selection of books written by local authors. We invite you to visit our online gift shop here for unique gifts this holiday season.

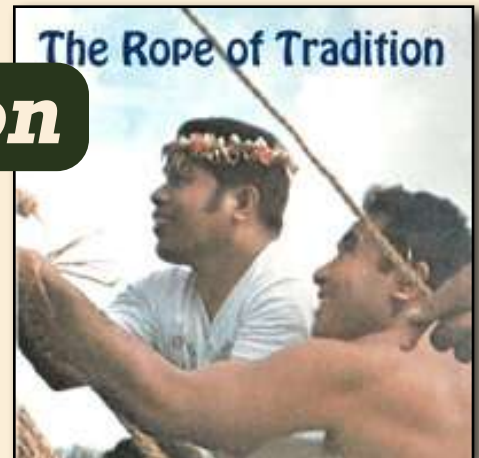


## **Famalao'an Guåhan**

This book features profiles of 28 amazing women who have "made their mark" or had an impact on Guam history. Famalao'an Guåhan is a resource that will inspire and motivate people to remember and learn from the past, and to collect stories about the important women – and men – in their lives.

## **The Rope of Tradition**

The Rope of Tradition was written by Saipan Carolinian Lino M. Olopai with the assistance of cultural anthropologist Dr. Juliana Flinn. It describes Mr. Olopai's journey in finding a balance between the traditional ways in which he was raised and the evolving demands of our world today.



## **Body Ornamentation and Jewelry by Mama Jill**

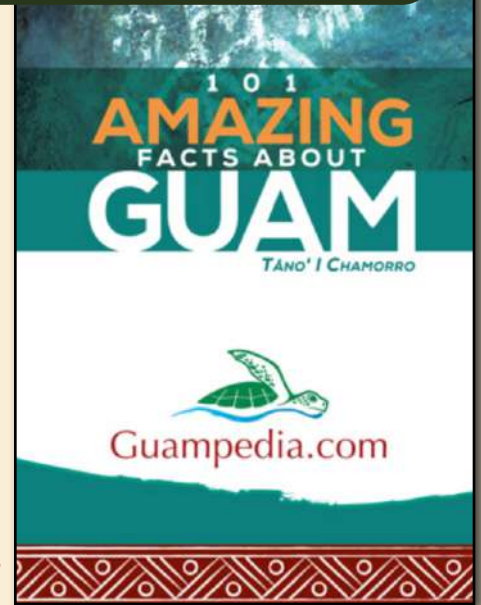


From handmade hair picks made of marlin tail, to unique spondylus shell and crystal earrings, you do not want to miss out on handcrafted pieces by Chamorro/CHamoru Master Carver-Body Ornamentation artist Jill Benavente, lovingly known as "Mama Jill." Mama Jill's pieces are great accessories for both day and evening wear for any holiday event.

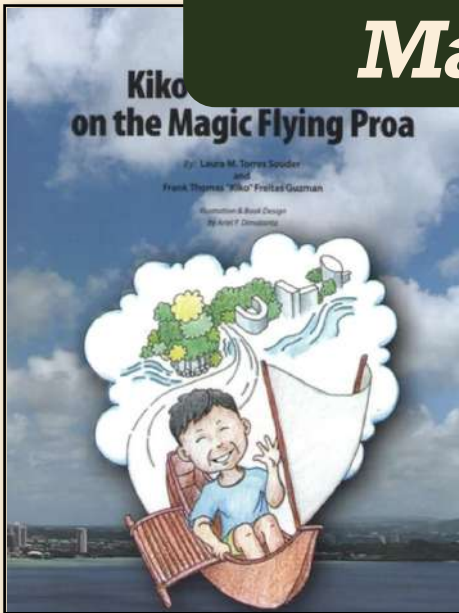
# 101 Amazing Facts About Guam

Whether you were born, raised, or have roots in Guam, we are sure that there is a fact or two that you may not know about! Guampedia's 101 Amazing Facts About Guam includes interesting facts about the island of Guam and the rich history and culture of its people. With historic images and original artwork, the book introduces readers to the indigenous Chamorro/CHamoru people of

the Marianas, highlighting unique aspects of their ancient culture and society, and points out some of the important milestones in Guam history in a small, concise volume that will delight readers of all ages and backgrounds. Written for a broad audience, this book represents some of the research and information that can be found on our website [here](http://Guampedia.com).



## Kiko's Adventure on the Magic Flying Proa



Written by Laura M. Torres Souder and Frank Thomas "Kiko" Freitas Guzman, the book *Kiko's Adventure on the Magic Flying Proa* is a fictional story about 7-year-old Kiko and his Auntie Lo talking about ancestors after their visit to an ancient burial site where over 500 ancient CHamoru remains are memorialized. The adventure begins when Kiko finds a child-sized proa hidden in a cave that he falls asleep in and begins his imaginary journey back in time

where he meets Metgot, a young boy his age who lived at the site when it was an active latte village in the 1500s. The adventure unfolds as Kiko and Metgot engage in spirited conversation about things as they were. When Kiko awakens, he excitedly tells Auntie Lo about his incredible dream! Or, was it real in another dimension? You be the judge. Get a copy of the book in Chamorro/CHamoru, *I Biâhen Kiko' Gi I Engkantão Na Gigipu Na Sakman*, [here](http://Guampedia.com).

**These are just a few of the great things you can find on our online gift shop. Supplies are limited, so visit our shop today to complete your holiday shopping!**

*Felis Nabida't & Happy Holidays*

