



**ETHNIC MUSIC, RITUALS, AND NATURE: THE CASE OF
BANGIAMNPAMAGUAMN ALANGAN TRIBE, ORIENTAL MINDORO**

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ABSTRACT – Music has been a medium through which humans have expressed their relationship with nature. To further understand the relationships between ethnic music and nature, this study examines *bangian* as part of the *pamaguan* rice festival or traditional work songs in a Mangyan community in Sitio Alangan in Oriental Mindoro, Philippines. Through thematic interpretation of the musical content and its social context and music theoretical analysis of the *bangian*, the study has unpacked how *bangian* ritualizes the community's reality, how nature provides materials for performance of *bangian*, how *bangian* tells about everyday life and reinforces communal bonds, and how nature shapes the performance, execution, and notation of the work songs. Implications and contributions of the study to cultural preservation and identity construction are also highlighted.

Keywords: ethnic music, nature, musical theory, Mangyan, agrarian ritual



JOURNAL OF NATURE STUDIES
(formerly Nature's Bulletin)
ISSN: 1655-3179