

Your contribution counts!

Your generosity is appreciated by the Foundation, and more especially by the recipients and beneficiaries of your kind-hearted gesture in contributing to a future that holds promise for generations that follow. They are the future doctors, teachers, lawmakers, engineers and leaders who follow our footsteps and will help shape the future world.

Your contribution in cash, kind, ideas, and participation in fund-raising activities by the Foundation matters a great deal in bringing to fruition youthful dreams that may never be realized otherwise.

We thank your kindness from the bottom of our hearts.



**Notre Dame Institute
Alumni Endowment Foundation, Inc**
www.ndialumniph.org

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Corporation No. C3123102
Tax ID 26-3332695

Notre Dame Institute

Aringay, La Union, Philippines

The Past - History

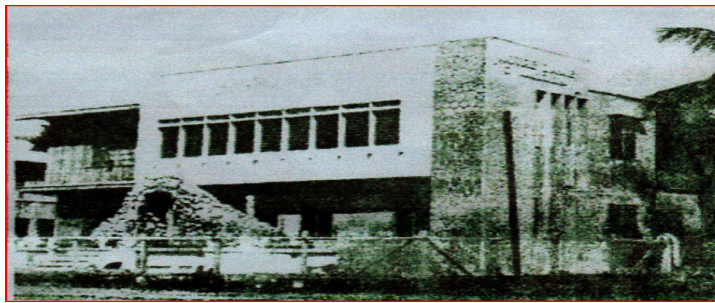
In 1947 when the Philippines was just coming out of the ravages of World War II, the need to rebuild the country especially the educational system had become an urgent necessity. Thanks to the dream and vision of the late Rev. Fr. Enrique Dulay, then parish priest of Aringay with a trusty group of conscientious and forward-thinking town leaders in the persons of Mr. Francisco Abena, Dr. Juana D. Diaz, Atty. Enrique Calub, Mrs. Esperanza Pulido, Mrs. Gregoria D. Yaranon, Mr. Demetrio Bautista, Mr. Alipio Diaz, then Mayor Antonio de Vera and Mr. Isidro Floreza, founded the first high school of the town. The birth of the new school coincided with the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and it was only appropriate to name it Notre Dame in Her honor.

From humble beginnings in the landmark FACOMA building, the school started with a class for each of the four years in high school. The year 1948 saw the first graduates of NDI. As enrolment grew, new premises were built on



The old Facoma building that housed the fledgeling school.

farmland east of the national highway, thanks to the generosity of one of the founders. The school relocated once again to its present site to accommodate an ever growing student body. This new building, however, did not last beyond 30 years when the devastating earthquake of 1990 reduced the building as well as our centuries-old church and rectory to rubble.



NDI school building east of the town plaza. The 1990 earthquake desimated the building to the ground.

Through this difficult time, the school went through extreme duress yet continued to operate under less than desirable conditions with scattered makeshift shelters, or under the shade of trees until construction of the new building commenced. Through the joint herculean efforts of the Diocesan Office, teachers, parents, alumni and townspeople, the school got off the ground to what it is today; the Phoenix out of the Ashes! Each of these people who have rebuilt the school are all deserving of mention by name in this publication, however, they are too numerous for the space available. Nevertheless, they can rest assured that their priceless contribution is recognized and remembered and the new building which was inaugurated in 1993 is testimony to their heroism.

The Present

The present building of NDI is a far cry from its humble origins. However, it still falls short of the needs of the ever-increasing student population. Makeshift classrooms continue to be used, laboratory equipment and facilities for the science subjects are desperately needed, the library shelves need to be filled. Enrolment fees do not suffice to meet the financial commitments of the school, let alone improve and expand existing facilities.

In addition, it is such a waste to see deserving but needy students quit school with their potential unrealized—thus the need for scholarship grants. Undeniably, outside resources from individuals and organizations play a significant part in fulfilling the school's obligations and needs.



NDI in the new millennium.

The Future—Why We Are Needed

With limited financial resources, the running of NDI strains and curtails its growth in line with the rest of the world. With access to more and better facilities, the potential of the present as well as future generations of students will be hugely improved and offers them a chance to be more prepared to become useful and progressive members of society, for the world and country in general, and for our beloved town in particular. Like the founders of our beloved Alma Mater in those dark days after the war, we are privileged to have this opportunity to put our heads together and share the fruits of our successes, to continue what they had started during the most trying times when they, themselves, had few resources. but had a dream that benefited each and every one of us, as alumni: an educational institution that nurtured us and helped pave the way to what we are today.