

“LEGEND OF IMPUGONG”

Leticia D. Guinsiman, PhD

Kan idan nangkaama, nuntan, hutta da man-ili men ida kamangam-amag ni gulingay wenu kuaku. Diman sitio Natebwek, wada i legleg ni daka uh-uhala ni mangamag ni gulingay.

Nunta da umili, wada i hakey ni kamangam-amag ni gulingay ni nan ngadan ni Pugong, higatu ket nalaing ni kamangam-amag.

Nalabah i timpu, hutta da tuu’n kamanlamlaku nihigatu men kanda ay “gulingay ni Pugong” hutta gulingay da. Nalabah i katew-e-tew-en, tinikkey da hutta “gulingay ni Pugong” ni Ímpugong,” pyan tun ibaga, inamag nihi Pugong.

Elders recount that years ago, villagers commonly made smoking pipes, locally known as gulingay or kuaku. In the sitio of Natebwek, a particular type of clay was found to be ideal for designing and molding gulingay.

Among the villagers, there was a skilled craftsman named Pugong, who was an expert in making these smoking pipes.

Over time, people who purchased pipes from him began to refer “gulingay ni Pugong” to their pipes (Pugong’s smoking pipes). As the years passed, the term was gradually shortened to Impugong, meaning “made by Pugong.”

The Legend of Impugong explains how a place got its name through a person’s skill and reputation. It tells the story of Pugong, a talented craftsman known for making gulingay (also called kuaku), or smoking pipes, from special clay found in Natebwek. This legend highlights how personal achievements can influence the identity of a place, and how language can change over time to

