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| Author | **Alex Moises** |
| Inspiration | **Little Angel Gabby** |

**Andres Bonifacio: Profile of a Filipino Hero**

**Family Background**

**Father : Santiago Bonifacio**

**Mother : Catalina de Castro**

**Brothers / Sisters: Ciriaco, Procorpio, Espiridina, Troadio and Maxima**

**Wife : Monica - First wife who died of leprosy;   
                    Gregoria - Second wife**

**Place of Birth : Tondo, Manila**

**Date of Birth : November 30, 1863**

**Date of Demise : May 10, 1897**

**Education**

**He was unable to complete his high school education due to poverty which was brought about by the early deaths of his parents in the early 1880's. He was a self-educated man, a very smart person and a well-read individual. He read books and articles on politics, law, revolution and religion. In his home, he kept a collection of La Solidaridad and letters of Juan Luna, Marcelo H. del Pilar and Jose Rizal. His collection of books included biographies of U.S. presidents, books on the French revolution, Rizal's Noli Me Tangere, Hugo's Les Miserables and Sue's The Wandering Jews. He wrote a poem entitled, "Pag-Ibig sa Tinubuang Lupa" ("Love of Native Land"), a Decalogue of the Katipunan and an essay entitled, "Ang Mabatid ng mga Tagalog" ("What the Tagalogs should know").**

**Work-Related Traits and Skills**

**Honest**

**Hardworking**

**Neat and stylish dresser**

**Beautiful penmanship**

**Skill to make walking canes and paper fans**

**Ability to speak Filipino, Spanish and a little bit of English**

**Ability to identify one's limitations and ability to recognize the**

**worth of other individuals**

**Employment**

**Self-employed as market peddler of walking canes and paper fans**

**Messenger and salesman for Fleming and Company**

**Warehouse keeper for Fresell and Company**

**"FATHER OF THE PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION OF 1896"**

**Notes on Andres Bonifacio and the Katipunan**

**A) The Kataastaasan Kagalanggalangang Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan (Highest and Most Respected Sons of the People), otherwise known as the K.K.K. or the Katipunan, was the secret society founded by Andres Bonifacio on July 7, 1892 at Azcarraga street (now Claro M. Recto avenue), Tondo, Manila.**

**B) The original members of the Katipunan were: Andres Bonifacio, Valentin Diaz, Teodoro Plata, Ladislao Diwa and Deodato Arellano.**

**C) The Katipunan recruited members using the triangle system. The katipunero (revolutionary) in the triangle took in two new members who did not know each other but both knew the katipunero. By the end of the year, this method of recruitment was substituted by another method which allowed the katipunero (revolutionaries) to recruit as many members as they could manage.**

**D) New members underwent initiation rites which required them to swear to the secrets of the Katipunan and to defend the aims of the society and to sign the Katipunan membership register with their own blood, which was an ancient ritual called blood compact.**

**E) New members were required to pay an entrance of one real fuerte or twenty-five centavos. All members were required to give a monthly contribution of medio real or twelve centavos.**

**F) Structurally, the Katipunan had three governing bodies, namely: the kataastaasang sanggunian or the supreme council, the sanggunian bayan or the provincial council, and the sangguniang balangay or the popular council. The kataastaasang sanggunian was the highest governing body and it was composed of the president or supremo, the comptroller, the fiscal, the secretary and the treasurer. The sangguniang bayan and the sangguniang balangay represented the provincial and municipal or town chapters of the Katipunan, respectively.**

**G) Although Bonifacio was the founder and organizer of the Katipunan, he did not equate this lofty position with the position of president of the organization. He did not insist on becoming the president of the Katipunan. He was a humble man with the ability to recognize the worth of other individuals.**

**H) The first president of the Katipunan was Deodato Arellano. He was replaced by Ramon Basa in 1893. Bonifacio became president or supremo of the Katipunan during the early part of 1895.**

**I) There were three grades of membership within the katipunan (society): the first grade, the second grade, and the third grade. A member of the first grade was called a "katipon" ("associate") and wore a black hood with a triangle of white ribbons during the meetings of the society. The letters Z. Ll. B. were inscribed inside the white ribbons and they were the Katipunan letter codes which stood for "anak ng bayan" ("sons of the people"), the password of the katipon. A member of the second grade was called a "kawal" ("soldier") and wore a green hood with a triangle of white lines during the meetings of the society. The password for a "kawal" was Gom-Bur-Za, the first syllables of the names of three Filipino martyrs: Gomez, Burgos and Zamora. A member of the third grade was called a "bayani" ("patriot") and wore a red mask and sash with green borders. The password for a "bayani" was Rizal, who was the most influential person of the "Propaganda Movement" during this period in Philippine history.**

**J) The main objective of the Katipunan was to establish an independent and democratic Philippine state. To achieve this objective, members had to be indoctrinated with the rules and ideals of the society which were laid down by Andres Bonifacio and Emilio Jacinto, who was the "brains of the Katipunan." Bonifacio wrote "The Duties of the Sons of the People," a Decalogue of the Katipunan while Jacinto wrote the "Kartilla," or the primer of the Katipunan. Members were expected to follow, strictly, the rules and to take into their hearts the ideals of the society.**

**Bonifacio and the Decalogue of the Katipunan**

**Bonifacio realized that in order to strengthen the Katipunan, the members had to be disciplined and indoctrinated with the ideals of the revolutionary society. In his "Katungkulang Gagawin ng mga Z. Ll. B." ("The Duties of the Sons of the People"), Bonifacio listed down the rules of the Katipunan which constitute a Decalogue:**

**I. Love God with all your heart.  
  
    II. Bear always in mind that the love of God is also the love of country, and**

**this, too, is love of one's fellow-men.  
  
   III. Engrave in your heart that the true measure of honor and happiness is to die  
        for the freedom of your country.  
  
   IV. All your good wishes will be crowned with success if you have serenity,**

**constancy, reason, and faith in your acts and endeavor.  
  
   V. Guard the mandates and aims of the K.K.K. as you guard your honor.  
  
  VI. It is the duty of all to deliver, at the risk of their own lives and wealth,  
       anyone who runs great risks in the performance of his duty.  
  
 VII. Our responsibility to ourselves and the performance of our duties will be the  
 example set for our fellow-men to follow.**

**VIII. Insofar as it is within your power, share your means with the poor and the  
 unfortunate.  
  
  IX. Diligence in the work that gives sustenance to you is the true basis of love**

**--- love for your own self, for your wife and children, and for your brothers**

**and countrymen.  
  
   X. Punish any scoundrel and traitor and praise all good work. Believe, likewise,**

**that the aims of the K.K.K. are God-given for the will of the people is also the**

**will of God.**