

RESEARCHERS



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FUN FACT

Don Aniceto Maria Muñoz y Ramos was the first Mayor of Aliaga (1847). He was also a Governor of Nueva Ecija.

Aliaga was established on January 3, 1849 not February 8, 1849. However, Aliaga will continue to celebrate its Founding Anniversary on February 8 of each year.

Parroquia de Aliaga (later known as Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras) was established on February 27, 1849 not April 26, 1849. However, Aliaga will continue to celebrate its Town Fiesta on April 26 of each year.

Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras origin is from Los Navalucillos (Toledo-Spain) inaugurated on April 14, 1632. Her unique image was the only Marian image found in the world. Until 1849 the image of Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras was seen in Aliaga as the Town Patroness. This linkage has a profound connection between Don Aniceto Maria Muñoz and Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras through his deep faith from his hometown.

THIS IS A JOINT PROJECT OF
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HISTORY

ALIAGA NUEVA ECIJA

SINCE 1849

Municipality of Aliaga

Diocesan Shrine and Parish of
Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras

Diocesan Shrine and Parish of Saint John
the Baptist



Legend has it that Aliaga was originally called “Pulong Bibit” because it was a dumping place for human skeletons. With Ilocanos as its first inhabitants, Aliaga was one of the most beautiful and progressive town in Nueva Ecija during Spanish regime. The town of Zaragoza, Quezon, and Licab were formerly barrios of Aliaga, it had fine roads, long lines of bazaars, an imposing Catholic Church, and a beautiful public plaza. For this reason, it earns the name “Maynilang Munti” or the little Manila. The town of Aliaga, Nueva Ecija was founded on January 3, 1849. This is way earlier than the traditionally commemorated date of February 8, 1849.

The research finds solid backing from pertinent 1849 records found at the Archdiocesan Archives of Manila.

More importantly, the same date is inscribed clearly in the Decree of Establishment of the Aliaga Parish, also found at the Archdiocesan Archives. Additionally, these newly revisited records indicate that the canonical establishment of the Aliaga Parish took place on February 27, 1849, instead of April 26, 1849.

More significantly, the research also leads us to the correct name of Aliaga’s first Gobernadorcillo (town mayor): Aniceto Maria Muñoz. Previous documents have introduced him as Aniceto Ferry. The birth record of Don Aniceto Maria Muñoz reveals that his family hailed from Los Navalucillos in Toledo, Spain. This corrects an earlier misattribution, claiming that the gentleman came from the Spanish town of Aliaga.

Frequently Asked Questions



1. How did Aliaga get its name?

- “Aliaga” (Teruel–Spain) is one of the name recall from the Spanish towns like Jaen, Talavera, and Zaragoza. However, it was not the birth place of Don Aniceto Maria Muñoz. Aliaga Spain does not have salt mine.

2. Where did the first settlers stay?

- Brgy. Bibiclat formerly known as Brgy. San Juan Bautista in 1836: 13 years before Aliaga became a town in 1849.

3. When is Taong Putik Festival?

- June 24 of each year

4. When is Aliaga Town Fiesta?

- April 26 of each year

5. Who is Aliaga Patron Saint?

- Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras or Our Lady of Salt. Inspired by Don Aniceto’s hometown Patroness “La Virgen De Las Saleras” from Los Navalucillos (Toledo–Spain).

6. Who is the first parish priest of Nuestra Señora De Las Saleras?

- Fr. Valentin Garcino–Puyat

7. Miracle from Our Lady of Salt?

- Virgin Mary appeared to the shepherd in Los Navalucillos–Spain, enabling him to give salt to his goats. This apparition has inspired a deep-rooted custom in the area which compensates for the deficient supply of salt in the pastures.

8. What is Battle of Aliaga?

- General Manuel Tinio was born in Aliaga, Nueva Ecija (presently Licab), on June 17, 1877. On September 4–5, 1897, war between the Philippine revolutionaries of Nueva Ecija and the Spanish forces of Governor General Primo de Rivera, considered one of the most glorious battles of the rebellion. Filipino won the war against Spanish.