

HISTORY AND CULTURAL LIFE OF THE TOWN
- LIAN -
Part One - History

Bordering the China Sea in western Batangas, with its ardent agitation in hilly terrain with an area of about 8,769 hectares, is the town of Lian.

Founded in 1760 by the Chinese traders, there ~~is~~ no written records of the names of its settlers. That the early founders of the town were Chinese are furnished by its old residents who obtained informations from their forefathers. This is further supported by the fact that some of the family names of the residents are of Chinese derivation. The Chinese came here to trade. Some of them made a permanent settlement in this town and established themselves as retailers. They enjoyed ease and comfort in the town.

Records are wanting how this town had its first name, who named it and how it acquired its present name. Known information from the old residents had it that the first name of this town is Lia, the name of the head of the first group of Chinese traders who settled here. There is no significance that may be attached to the former name of this town.

With the coming of the Spaniards in the Philippines, they planted the Christian religion in this town. They found the early settlers to be Chinese. When the Chinese were asked what the name of this town was, they answered Lia; but the Spaniards undertook it to be Lian, its present name. Because the religion of the Chinese was inimical to the religion of the Spaniards, the latter drove the Chinese away. From a small barrio of Nasugbu since this establishment up to the early part of the twentieth century, from the sheer determination of the natives to own a piece of land and to be free, the natives defied the foreign tyrants and asserted their defiance in bloody encounters with the foreigners, and from this determination of the natives now stands the present town of LIAN with its residents living in peace and democracy.

That the present official name of the town is LIAN which is governed by elective officials.

Names of persons who held leading official positions in the community with the rates of their tenure: With exception of the public documents kept after the liberation of the town, there are no available records showing the names of persons who had held leading official positions in the community during the past. However, the following persons are given as obtained from Mr. Francisco Lejano, an old resident of the town who had been a "Kapitan" during the Spanish regime and the first Municipal President when the town was separated from Nasugbu:

Leading Officials During the Spanish Time

1. Macario Lejano
2. Guardiano Malinay
3. Eusebio Malinay