



PAROL

KAYLEE GEORGE



PAROL

A parol (paról or parul, from Spanish farol, meaning lantern) is a Filipino ornamental lantern displayed during the Christmas season.

Parols are traditionally constructed using bamboo and Japanese crêpe paper, and are illuminated with candles, oil lamps, or carbide lamps.

A carbide/acetylene gas lamp is a simple lamp that produces and burns acetylene (C_2H_2), which is created by the reaction of calcium carbide (CaC_2) with water (H_2O).

MODERN PAROLS



Modern parols can be made using other materials such as plastic, metal, and capiz shells and are usually illuminated with electric lighting.

Its most-common form is a five-pointed star, although it can come in various shapes and sizes.

Large disc-shaped electronic versions of parols produced in Pampanga are known as "parul sampernanu", the phonetic spelling of parol San Fernando, owing to the city where these lanterns are a major product.

PANUNULÚYAN PAGEANT

The parol is a traditional part of the Panunulúyan pageant in the nine-day Christmas Novena procession during the Spanish colonial period of the Philippines.

It was initially rectangular or oblong in shape and was made with white paper, but eventually came to be made in various shapes and colors.

It became standardized to a five-pointed star (symbolizing the Star of Bethlehem) during the American colonial period and it remains an iconic symbol of Filipino Christmas.



HISTORY

Spanish Colonization

Like in other parts of Southeast Asia, paper lanterns were introduced to the Philippines before the Spanish colonization of the Philippines.

In the native languages, parol and lanterns in general are also known as paritaan.

The tradition of the parol becoming associated with Christmas dates back to the Spanish colonial period of the Philippines. It is a local adaptation of the Hispanic tradition of carrying small light sources (like torches, candles, or braziers) during the nine-day Christmas Novena procession leading up to the midnight mass (called Simbang Gabi in the Philippines).

A brazier is a container used to burn charcoal or other solid fuel for cooking, heating or cultural rituals.



They are particularly associated with the Panunulúyan pageant accompanying the procession, which is a reenactment of the search for lodgings by Joseph and the pregnant Virgin Mary in Bethlehem.

The actors portraying Joseph and Mary, as well as the townspeople, carried paper lanterns made with bamboo and Japanese paper (papel de japon). After the procession, these lanterns were then hung outside houses as decorations.

LANTERN-MAKING

The traditional craft of lantern-making is usually taught to schoolchildren around Christmastime, but actual manufacture is now primarily done in the barrios ("quarter" or "neighborhood") and the poblacions ("town" or "settlement") and is rarely done in urban areas.

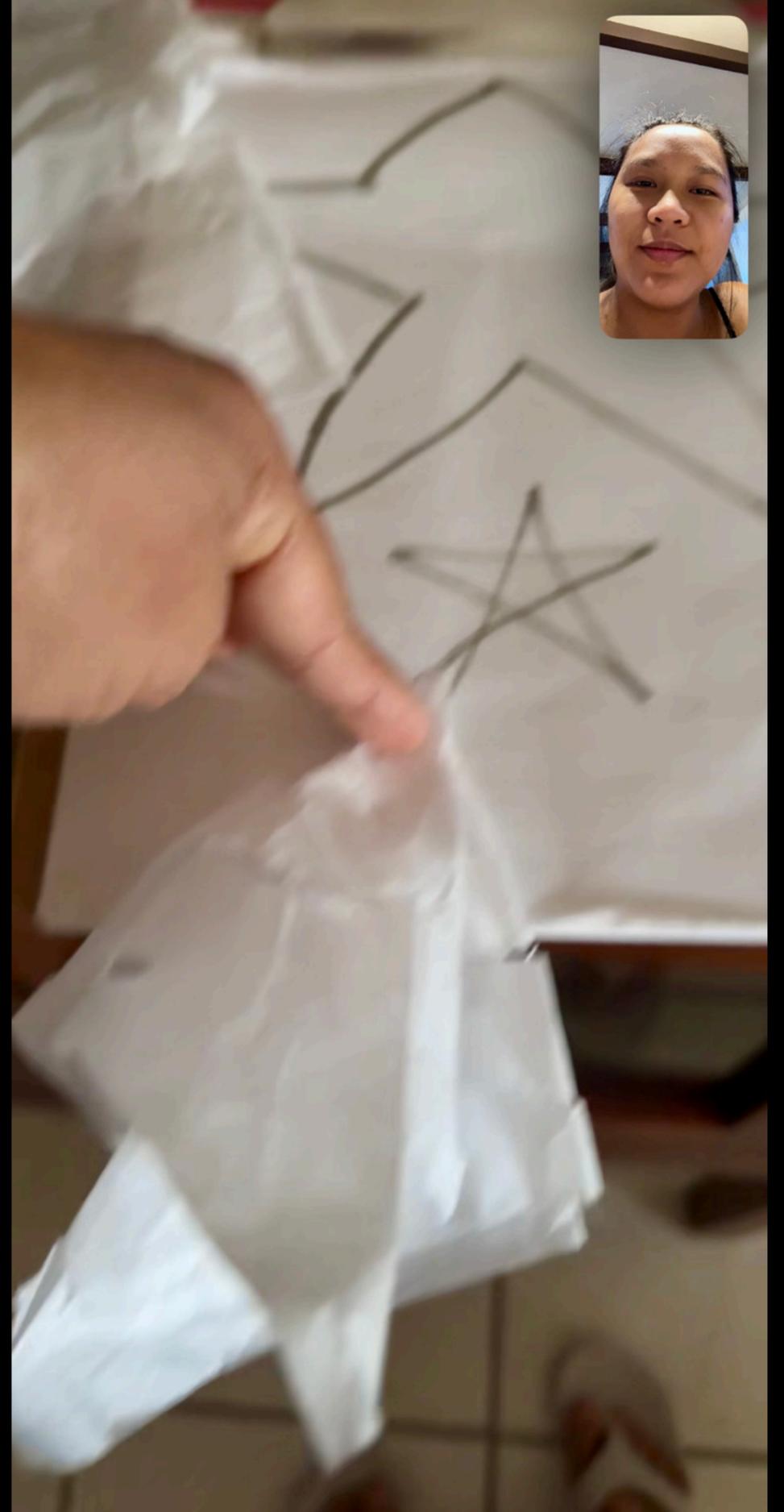
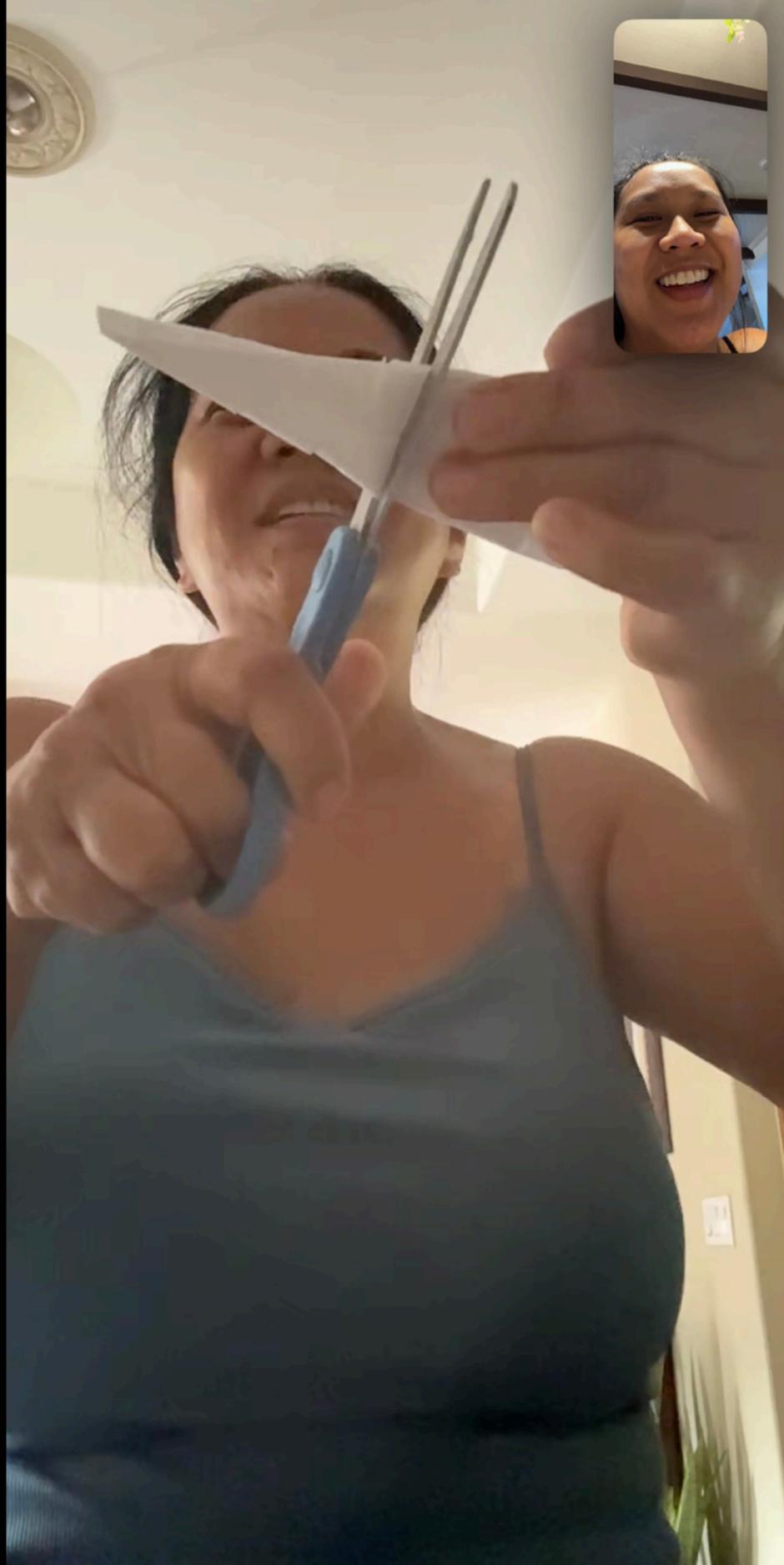
These lanterns remain until January, traditionally removed after Epiphany, to honour the Three Kings and their visit to the infant Jesus.

Many communities, such as villages, schools, and groups hold competitions to see who can make the best parol.

Entries from the 2012 Giant Lantern Festival in San Fernando, Pampanga



Epiphany, aka "Theophany" in Eastern Christian tradition, is a Christian feast day commemorating the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and the wedding at Cana.







QUESTIONS / COMMENTS?

E-mail biblicalhebrewhawaii@gmail.com

Website (Under construction)

Instagram [HebrewHawaiian](#)

Facebook [Hebrew Hawaiian](#)

SOURCES

- 01 Wikipedia contributors. "Parol." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 5 Nov. 2024. Web. 7 Dec. 2024.
- 02 Wikipedia contributors. "Carbide lamp." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 2 Dec. 2024. Web. 7 Dec. 2024.
- 03 <https://www.facebook.com/filcomcenter/posts/pfbid0dMfZKmbkJUAsWiZ7h4kmeSbApZmk9F1f5m2aNDckaP5hQuXnGy6iigEyUJpeUweol?rdid=rZkRKfgPgrpOGRg8#>