

# The origin of rice tagalog version

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Long ago, people did not plant crops or raise animals for food. They relied only on nature and their surroundings. They would live in places where they could find food. Some stayed in caves and lived on fruits and animal meat. Some stayed by river banks and the sea, so they could fish for their food. They would stay in a place until food got scarce and then move to another place where food was bountiful. The couple Bang and Danna belonged to a group who used to live near the sea. They were looking for a new place. A fierce storm had destroyed their houses near the sea. They feared the coming of another storm.

Why do we always move our home? " Bang asked Danna. " I am tired of this kind of life. We cannot even have children because we keep moving. " Bang wanted to separate from the rest of the group and stay behind in a pleasant place. " I want to bear our child there. " Danna gave in to his wife's request. They chose a nice place in the mountains and built a simple house there. Their new home was tranquil and food was bountiful. Nearby was a clear stream where Danna caught many fish. But then came a drought. For a long time, no rain fell, and the earth dried up. Plants and trees died, and birds and animals disappeared.

Fish perished in the dried stream. Danna traveled far to look for food. But the drought was merciless. He traveled until he reached the next mountain. Still, he could not find food. Exhaustion caught up with Danna in the middle of a vast field. He lay among the grasses and fell asleep. Suddenly, the wind blew, and the grasses danced and sang. Danna woke up surprised. Danna listened to the song of the grasses. " We are the hope of the people, Danna. Gather our grains. Our grains are good food. " Danna noticed the head of the

grains of the grasses. Each head was full of golden grains. He picked a grain and bit it.

Pound our grains to remove their golden covers, " sang the grasses. " Cook the white kernels inside the grains to soften them. It is good food. " Danna gathered the grains until his bag was full and then hurriedly went home to Bang. " Now we have food," he happily told Bang. He removed the golden covers of the grains, as the grasses had instructed him, cooked the grains, and then ate them. The next morning, Danna returned to the field, " plant our grains," sang the grasses. " Plant them on land softened by rain. They will grow, and you will take care of them. When you harvest, save some grains to plant again.