

## **Turning Off the Heat**

By: **Van Rick Laput**, AE Memorial Science High School  
Zamboanga City, Philippines

On September 2009, Philippines experienced the wrath of Typhoon Ondoy, rain water rose above head, houses were covered with water. After Ondoy, typhoon Pepeng came with heavy rains and destructive winds. After Pepeng left, the two typhoons left nothing but destruction in properties, and killed innocent people. Even though these typhoons passed, persons who lost their love ones could not forget the pain and misery. Just last May 13, 2010, Manila measured the highest temperature ever since recorded, reaching almost 40 degrees Celsius.

Throughout the years, the globe is getting warmer from one day to another, resulting disasters strike mankind in an inevitable manner. Even though many campaigns had been fought against these unfortunate events, they still cannot cool down our planet Earth. For some reasons, people still do things that destroy our ecosystem and taking life in a grander scale.

Global Warming is one big plague in the face of humanity. It produces bad effects in our agricultural resources, water supply, hydro electrical energy, our health, and the environment. The lack of food and cereals in the harvest resulted in food shortages and hungry population. Lack of water supply results in thirst for many and lack of water can also result in rotating brownouts due to lack of hydro electrical power source. Global Warming also plays a devastating role in our health; too much heat causes heat stroke. In the environment, plants wither because of excessive amount of sunlight and harmful radiation they receive, water resources dry out, resulting death among the marine life, and also land creatures. Behind all of these tragedies, the main reason why it all began is us. Because of human activities that harm our Earth, lack of discipline among us, resulted in increased level of carbon dioxide which causes global warming. Even though how much we try to put an end to this blazing-hot state, in many situations, we cannot help it. We commit mistakes and these errors make global warming worse than ever. Although we could help restore back the once beautiful Earth, little by little, we could build up the planet's home again. We could recycle trash to reduce the number of garbage in our industry, we could also help by buying products/appliances without CFC or chlorofluorocarbon which add up in the problems of our environment. There are millions of ways on how to contribute your part in helping planet Earth. Even though it would take many generations to clean up the mess we have made, it will be faster if we help together and provide all the possible things we can do to stop Global Warming.

For my opinion, global warming is like a test of time to us, we might win or lose, but what is important is that we have tried our best to restore the Earth's natural and breathtaking beauty. Even though things look bleak, for me, anything is possible if we will put effort on it.

Global Warming maybe hard to end, God knows what will happen and let us hope that we will be saved from these bad calamities, and pray that we can turn off the unwanted heat the soonest possible time.