**Orphans of War**

Orphans of war are children who have lost at least one parent, particularly the father, in the various conflicts in Southern Philippines. Some are children of shaheed, or martyrs of the Moro revolutionary fronts, but many others are sons and daughters of civilians caught in the crossfire.

**Who Are the Orphans?**

Orphans can be classified based on:

- **Parent Lost**
- **Age & Gender**
- **Type of Incident**
- **Type of Dwelling**

**Where Are the Orphans?**

A total of 273 respondents were interviewed across 34 municipalities in seven provinces.

**Recommended Support for Orphans & Widows**

- Policy measures, including laws ensuring support for orphans and widows of war
- Design and delivery of comprehensive support packages, including the establishment of a DSWD-run and accredited orphanage in the Bangsamoro
- Establishing baseline data on orphans, widows, and existing de-facto orphanages, centers, and other service providers
- Continuous consultations with and monitoring of orphans and widows across all interventions

**How Many Orphans Are There?**

The MILF Social Welfare Committee (SWC) reportedly has a list of 8,182 orphans as of April 2019.

The MILF Bangsamoro Islamic Women Auxiliary Brigade (BIWAB) is working on a partial list with just over 500 widows and a similar number of orphans as of January 2020.

**What Do Orphans Need?**

- Emotional and spiritual support
- Access to balanced quality education
- Access to jobs and livelihood
- Physical safety and security especially for displaced communities
- Access to justice