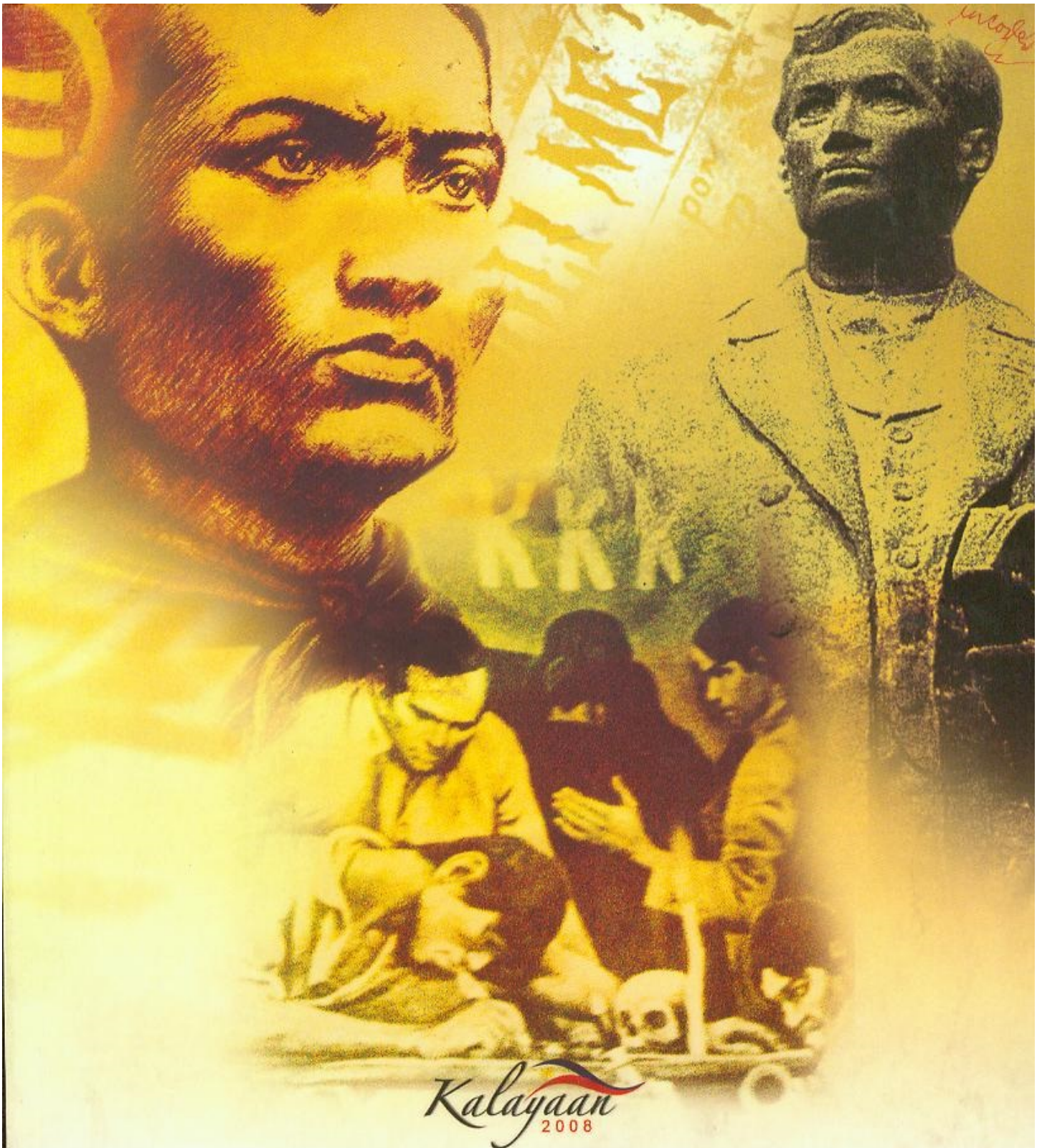
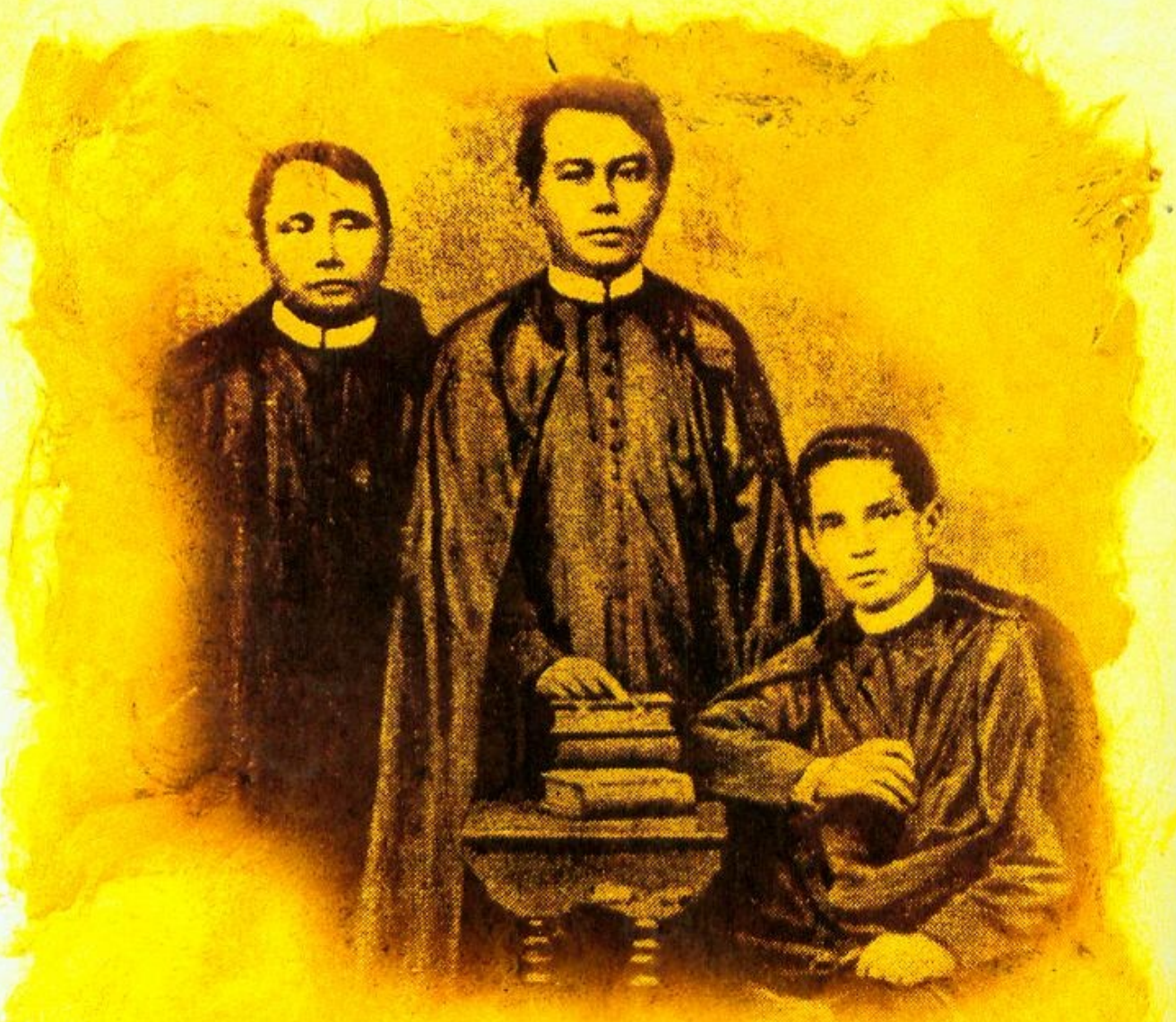


Kalayaan 2008

REPUBLIC SERVICE

TUNGO SA GANAP NA KALAYAAN AT KAUNLARAN

110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE



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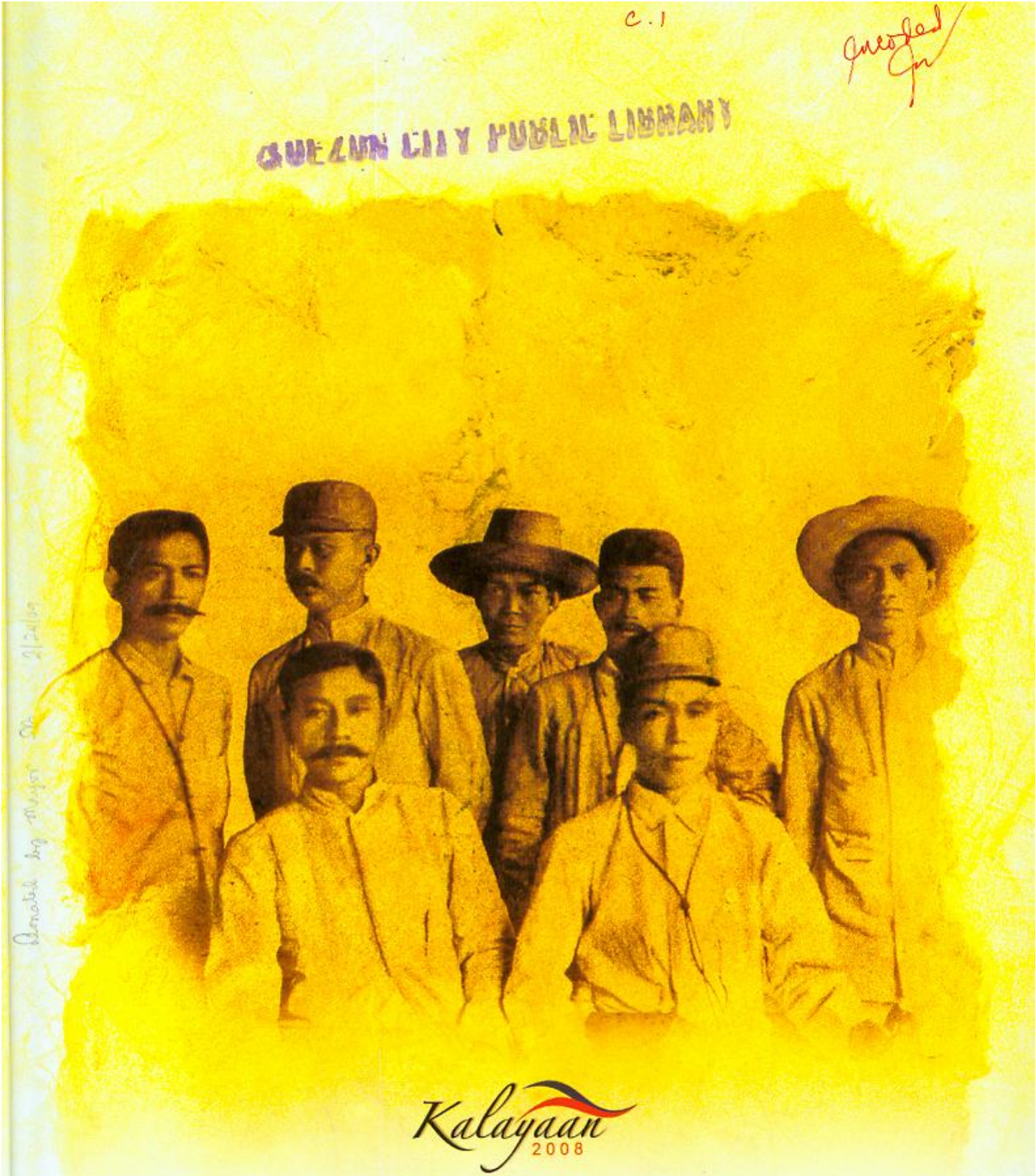

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Message

Warmest greetings to the National Historical Institute (NHI) as you publish the *Independence Day 2008 Souvenir Brochure*.

I am heartened by your zeal in commemorating the sacrifices of our heroes whose patriotism and bravery lead us to enjoy the freedom and the democratic way of life that we now have. Every Independence Day is also a time for us to reflect on our nation's future, shaped by how well we have empowered ourselves with the strength and patriotism of those who have come before us.

As we honor our forefathers, may this occasion be also an opportunity for all of us to strengthen our resolve in realizing our aspirations for a better life. Our focus now is to keep our economic momentum amid the threats posed by economic slowdown in some our major trading partners. But I am confident that guided by our shared vision of a better Philippines, we will prevail.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
President
Republic of the Philippines



Message

Ang aking taos-pusong pagbati sa mga Kabayan natin dito sa ating bansa at sa iba't ibang bahagi ng mundo sa pagdaraos natin ng Araw ng Kalayaan.

Sa pagdiriwang na ito, inaanyayahan ko kayong lahat na muling bigyang halaga ang kalayaang ating tinatamasa sa kasalukuyan. Salamat sa pangarap at sakripisyo ng mga Pilipinong nag-alay ng buhay para matamo ang kalayaang ito.

Marahil, ang pinakamagandang paraan ng pasasalamat sa kanila ay ang gamitin natin ang mahalagang kalayaang ito upang lalo pang pagyamanin ang kabuhayan, kaligtasan at katatagan ng ating bayan.

Hanapin din natin ang mga aspeto ng ating buhay bilang isang bansa kung saan hindi pa tayo ganap na malaya: kung saan mayroong kagutuman, lumaya tayo mula sa kahirapan; kung saan may kaguluhan, lumaya tayo mula sa kriminalidad at terorismo; kung saan may mga Pilipinong napapabayaan, lumaya tayo mula sa kawalang-pakialam sa ating kapwa.

Sa okasyong ito, nais kong parangalan ang mga Kabayan nating patuloy na humahanap ng kalayaan mula sa kahirapan para sa kanilang mga mahal sa buhay – ang mga Overseas Filipino Workers.

Natatanging parangal din ang nais kong ibigay sa mga Kabayan nating nagpapalaya sa ating mga kabataan mula sa kamangmangan – ang ating mga guro; at ang mga Kabayan nating tumitiyak na hindi na muli pang maaagaw ang kalayaang ito – ang Kawal Pilipino.

Magkapit-bisig po tayong lahat upang ang kalayaan natin ay magdulot sa atin ng tunay na kaunlaran.

Pagpalain ng Diyos ang ating bansa.

Mabuhay!

Noli "Kabayan" de Castro
Vice President



Message

"We will struggle on, no matter how long it takes . . . until we establish a just community of free men and women in our land, dancing together, working and striving together, singing and dancing together, laughing and loving together."

Jose W. Diokno

The notion of a free Filipino nation remains an open question, argue many. In truth, the opposite is the case. And we need only to look around us for the answer.

Where there are people who suffer from hunger, sickness, ignorance, and crime, there can be no freedom. Where there are people whose civil and political rights are trampled, there can be no freedom. Where there are people who are not empowered, who do not have a voice in society, there can be no freedom. Where there is poverty, violence, and injustice, the people can not be free.

We can raise our flag, sing our national anthem, and celebrate yearly the day of our independence, but the fact remains: only the face of our captors has changed, the chains that imprison continue to fetter us as slaves. We still stand as prisoners of economic poverty, social deprivation, political tyranny, and cultural disintegration.

The fight against such oppressions is long and arduous. But just as stubborn as the existence of struggles in our history is our resiliency as a people. This gives us hope to someday rise in liberation. As contended by historian Renato Constantino, struggle is our historic right and it alone can make us free.

The transformation of our nation relies in our unity. Invoking the spirit of patriotism may be a task now doubly difficult in this age of globalism, but it holds the key to our freedom. For only through our own efforts can be liberate ourselves.

I enjoin my fellow Filipinos to continue the fight, the fight to emerge as victors in the struggle for a free Filipino nation. In solidarity and hard work, may we bring about meaningful change to warrant genuine celebration of our freedom.

Reynato S. Puno
SC Chief Justice



Message

My warmest greetings and congratulations to the administrators and staff of the National Historical Institute as you mark our nation's Independence Day this year with a souvenir brochure.

I commend the National Historical Institute for reaffirming your commitment to be the nation's premier historical research and resource center. I congratulate the esteemed men and women who took part in producing this brochure for the benefit of our countrymen.

Former President Diosdado Macapagal once said, "A nation is born into freedom on the day when such a people, molded into a nation by a process of cultural evolution and sense of oneness born of common struggle and suffering, announces to the world that it asserts its natural right to liberty and is ready to defend it with blood, life, and honor."

This brochure will help promote nationalism and crystallize our identity as a people. It honors our distinguished forebears and highlights notable periods in our colorful history.

We in the House of Representatives believe that a nation's sense of history forms part of its present backbone and its capacity to take on the challenges of the future.

Let us work together to build pride in our country and the distance we have traveled together as fellow Filipinos.

Mabuhay!

Prospero C. Nograles
Speaker
House of Representatives



Message

We at the Department of Education join our nation in the celebration of our Independence. It is proper and sacred that we as a people celebrate our freedom from centuries of foreign domination.

What our forefathers did in order for us to gain our independence also teaches us lessons. They epitomized love of county that our school system propagates among school children. Yet, every day of our national life we struggle against forces that threaten our freedom. We therefore infuse in the consciousness of our children the belief that much of what we are and what we can do as a people results from the gallantry of or heroes. Every Filipino is called upon to be vigilant and work hard to preserve our freedom.

We believe that we preserve our freedom when we are able to send our children to school where they gain knowledge and become independent. They are liberated from the shackles of ignorance and poverty. As our children become leaders of our country, the knowledge they gained is what makes them brave soldiers guarding our independence.

May our celebration of our Independence fire us to greater belief in our race and lead our nation to greatness.

Mabuhay ang ating Kalayaan!

Jesli A. Lapus
Secretary
Department of Education



Message

Today, 12 June 2008, we join all Filipinos in celebrating a momentous event—the birth of the Filipino nation. On this occasion, it is but fitting to stir our collective memory to the turbulent times when our forefathers ended more than three centuries of colonial bondage. Rizal and the first generation of Filipino patriots had shown a way out of this bondage -- through freedom and genuine self-determination. Bonifacio and Aguinaldo took Rizal's cue and carried out a struggle to win that freedom, together with the rest of Filipino nation, giving up blood and life for the future generations of Filipinos. Their great sacrifice behooves us to continually remember and honor this day-not only through rites and speeches but for the rest of our countrymen who are still waging a struggle for survival against poverty and social injustice.

Mabuhay ang ating kasarinlan!

Ambeth R. Ocampo
Chairman
National Historical Institute



Message

On the late afternoon of June 12, 1898, our country's freedom was proclaimed amidst severe uncertainties. While parts to the country were still under Spanish occupation, a new global power was positioning itself for possible colonization. Yet, despite these odds, our founding fathers rallied the people in proclaiming to the world our independence, making the Philippines a new member of the family of free nations.

As we celebrate the milestone event of our history, the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Philippine Independence, let us be reminded that our freedom was not given free. It was won by hard work and struggle by our forefathers, who placed the welfare of the nation above their personal interest. Let us, therefore, honor the sacrifices of our heroes by preserving the freedom paid for by their blood and upholding the values they fought for.

The Independence Day theme "Republic Service: *Tungo sa Ganap na Kalayaan at Kaunlaran*," was thought out to reach out to our people. This year's celebrations deviates from the traditional programs and activities and, instead, focused in delivering quick service to the people to send the message that the government exists for the people and is dedicated to their welfare.

As we are now confronted with severe challenges, we Filipinos can always triumph over trials through united action and resolve, just like our heroes in the past. Let us commemorate and reflect on the sacrifices of our heroes and keep alive their patriotic ideals. The welfare of our nation which they seek during their time can only be achieved through a united effort, self-sacrifice and cooperation.

Mabuhay ang ating Kasarinlan!



Ludovico D. Badoy
Executive Director III, National Historical Institute
and
Chair, Kalayaan 2008 Technical Working Committee

Excerpts of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's speech during the Vin d'Honneur

Rizal Hall, Malacañang
June 12, 2008



"His Excellency, the dean of the diplomatic corps, our Papal Nuncio Edward Joseph Adams; new excellencies of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations; Vice President Noli de Castro, members of the Philippine Congress; justices of the Supreme Court; Ambassador Benedicto, representing Secretary Romulo and our other officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs; captains of industry; leaders of the business community; ladies and gentlemen.

One hundred and ten years after we broke free of foreign bondage, we remember with deep gratitude our heroic forebears who paid the ultimate sacrifice on the altar of freedom so that we may live as a sovereign people. The century-old struggle continues. But instead of colonizing powers, we must now protect our freedom and future as a nation from global economic storms and security threats. The Philippines has built up a strong economy which is helping us with the challenges of the global surge in the price of food and fuel. A strong and growing economy has been the pillar we have labored to create to help guarantee peace, order and stability in our country – and it is paying off. Our economy reached our highest level of growth in 30 years last year, the peso is strong and we are close to balancing our budget.

As a responsible member of the international community, we in the Philippines are doing our part to create a world that is more humane. We have reached out in sympathy to our Chinese brethren in Sichuan province. Likewise, we have sent medical teams and continue to make those teams available to help the people of Myanmar. We coordinate with our ASEAN neighbors in the level of financial aid that each one of us sends to Myanmar.

As for the passage of the ASEAN charter, we would love nothing more than to see ASEAN consolidate its gains and move closer together. However, we leave this up to the Senate, to the Philippine Senate, which has been asked to review the charter for ratification.

Certainly, economic integration among Asian nations is imperative if we at the region are to take advantage of the expanding global trade and economic opportunities. We are thrilled at the prospect of a vibrant ASEAN. We hold great hope for the ASEAN charter, which will be the first and the boldest step towards the creation of a regional economic community.

Our strong course of global engagement has been an essential part of the economic turnaround of



The President with the Rigodon de Honor participants from Congress and the Cabinet.





the Philippines. It is important to acknowledge, as we celebrate our independence, the important role that our international friends and allies had made to our national development. These include the countries that you represent; the organizations that you represent, who are our development partners; and the foreign investors who have become part of our business community and who have brought their technologies and capitals to the Philippines.

You, together with Philippine business community, Philippine laborers and Philippine farmers, are part of the Philippine economic success story. We are grateful for your contributions and your commitment to our nation and our people. You are with us in our steadfast desire for the Philippines to break free from the bondage of poverty and to be able to join the first world in 20 years.

Indeed, our nation, all the nations you represent, can achieve greater stride when we work as a united force, for we all share ideals and possess the same aspirations of peace, stability, freedom and progress.

Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, join me in a toast to international solidarity and a resurgent Philippines.

Mabuhay!"

REMEMBERING THE UNREMEMBERED FILIPINO PATRIOTS IN THE PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION

Quennie Ann Palafox
History Researcher
National Historical Institute

The Philippine Revolution that sparked in 1896 witnessed the rise of great Filipino patriots all over the country who had significant roles and made noteworthy contributions in the revolution. These men responded to the call of nationalism and contributed their talents and skills to their struggle for independence against the Spaniards.

So much had been written about our heroes and national leaders chronicling their lives and works, neglecting those who also did heroic acts for the love of their motherland. There is a need for a historian to reassess the materials on the past so as to give justice to forgotten Filipino nationalists. The definition of hero is not exclusive to great men but also extend to those who attempt to improve the lives of their fellowmen and attain a society based on justice and fairness.

Iglesia Filipiniana Independiente

Filipino nationalism did not thrive alone in the arms struggle; it also found its expression in the form of rejection of the Catholic religion by going back to the native religions practiced by the Filipinos prior to Spanish colonization. The demand for the secularization of the churches awakened the nationalist fervor and became a fire that spread quickly among the Filipinos. The launching in 1902 of a Philippine national church called the *Iglesia Filipiniana Independiente* was the culmination of this vision which was first raised in the Assembly of Paniqui convened in 1989 for the purpose of organizing the Filipino clergy. At the forefront was a man who was a former Catholic priest, a nationalist, a patriot, a guerilla leader, and the first Supreme Bishop of the *Iglesia Filipiniana Independiente*. His name was Gregorio Aglipay Cruz y Labayan.



Gregorio Aglipay

Gregorio Aglipay, Founder (1860-1940)
Little is known about Gregorio Aglipay who continued the work begun by Fr. Jose Burgos – the Filipinization of the Catholic Church. He was born in Batac, Ilocos Norte on May 5, 1860. His parents were Pedro Aglipay Cruz and Victoriana Labayan Hilario. He obtained his Bachelors of Arts degree from Colegio de San Juan de Letran and went on to the University of Santo Tomas to study law. Religious calling was something he could not refuse so he entered the Vigan Seminary in 1883.

On December 21, 1889, he was ordained as priest in Manila, and for eight years served as coadjutor (assistant parish priest) in various parishes. The revolutionary government under Emilio Aguinaldo chose him to serve as military chaplain on October 20, 1898. He was then the only priest who signed in the Malolos Congress representing the province of Ilocos Norte. Aglipay was raised to rank of *vicario general castrence* (military vicar general) by General Aguinaldo in a decree issued on 20 October. Aglipay issued a number of manifestos urging the Filipino clergy to unite and take over the Church in the country.

The excommunication of Aglipay

In May 1899, Archbishop Nozaleda excommunicated Aglipay for allegedly inciting rebellion against church authorities although up to that time, the latter had not expressed any schismatic intentions. Mabini gave Aglipay firm support in a manifesto in which he urged the Filipino clergy to elect an Ecclesiastical Council which would set up a provisional organization for the Filipino Church. Mabini's objective was to establish a national church which, although still under the Holy See, would work in harmony with the revolutionary government. Isabelo de los Reyes, a labor leader, offered Aglipay the position of supreme bishop but he refused at first, but finally accepted the offer which marked his severance from the Roman Catholic Church.

Aglipay, a presidential candidate

Aglipay became a guerilla leader during the Philippine-American war but with the capture of General Aguinaldo in 1901, surrendered to Col. MacCaskey in Laoag. In 1935, he ran for presidency of the Commonwealth but was defeated by Manuel L. Quezon. On March 12, 1939, Aglipay married Pilar Jamias of Sarral, Ilocos Norte since marrying of a clergy is allowed in the Aglipayan Church. His service to the church was cut-short when he died on September 1, 1940 due to cerebral stroke. The movement for a Philippine Church demonstrates both the anti-friar nature of the Philippine Revolution and its nationalist content. The support given by millions of people to the Aglipayan church revealed its ardent desire for independence.



Pascual Poblete

Pascual Hicaro aka Pascual Poblete (1857-1921)

Who was Pascual Poblete? Although not as famous as Marcelo H. del Pilar or Jose P. Rizal, Poblete joined the Philippine Revolution using his pen and wisdom as his greatest weapons. Pascual Poblete's real name was Pascual Hicaro, Poblete was his mother's surname. He was born on May 17, 1857 to parents Francisco Hicaro and Maria Poblete in Naic, Cavite. He studied at the *Liceo de Manila* where he graduated with a degree in Bachelor of Arts. He had been contributing columns and essays to *La Oceanie Española* before he and Marcelo H. del Pilar founded the *Diariong Tagalog*. He was the founder and editor of the *Revista Popular de Filipinas* that published articles mainly on public education and Filipino womanhood. Poblete, then already serving as the editor and translator of the *Revista Popular de Filipinas*, established *Patnubay ng Catolico*. He was also an associate editor of *Ang Pliegong Tagalog* in 1896.

When the Philippine Revolution broke out, he was imprisoned and deported to Spain and then to Africa for subversion. He was nominated to the public policy board of the *Ministro de Ultramar* in Spain due to extraordinary talent in writing and then edited *El Grito del Pueblo* of the Nacionalista Party and *Ang Kapatid ng Bayan* upon returning home. He is remembered for writing the translation of the novel *Noli Me Tangere* by Rizal in the vernacular in 1909, and on December 30, 1913 he published *Dia Filipino* that contained many of Rizal's writings. He enraged the Americans who charged him in court because of the drama which he wrote entitled *El Amor Patric* but he escaped. He died of heart attack in Manila on February 5, 1921.

Julio Nakpil (1867-1960)

This man is known in history as the second husband to the young widow of Andres Bonifacio, Gregoria de Jesus. Nakpil was not only a revolutionist but was also a talented musician and composer. Julio Nakpil first saw the light on May 22, 1867 in Quiapo, Manila. At age eight, his parents enrolled him in the Quiapo public elementary school called *Escuela de Instruccion Primera*. His love for music made him take violin lessons from *Maestro* Ramon Valdes and in piano under his cousin Manuel Mata.



Julio Nakpil

When the revolution broke out, he was already a Freemason and was active in Rizal's *Liga Filipina*, an organization where Bonifacio was also an active member; he met Supremo Andres Bonifacio in Balara, Marikina November 2, 1896. The Supremo assigned him delicate missions such as the transfer of 30 to 40 copper boxes of gunpowder from the Spanish arsenal in Binangonan, Morong to Tejeros, San Francisco de Malabon, Cavite between December 1896 to March 1897. Bonifacio who came to trust Nakpil designated him acting secretary then minister of National Development (*fomento*) in the departmental government. He became a loyal follower of Bonifacio even after the latter's death and in Pasig he met the young widow of Bonifacio, Gregoria de Jesus whom he married on December 10, 1898 in the Catholic Church of Quiapo. His wife gave birth to eight children. His patriotic musical compositions include, among others *Pasig Pantaynin* (1897), *Kabanatuan* composed in honor of Gen. Luna, and *Salve Patria* (1903). He drew his inspirations for his compositions from the Philippine Revolution. He died on November 2, 1960.

Justo Lukban (1863-1927)

Taking part in the Philippine Revolution is not only defined by the raising of arms against the Spaniards when one can use his knowledge and talents to contest abusive Spaniards; this was proven by Justo Lucban, a physician, revolutionist, and politician.



Justo Lukban

Justo Lucban y Rilles was born to Don Agustin Lucban and Doña Andrea Rilles, wealthy couple, in Labo, Ambos Camarines (Camarines Norte) on May 28, 1863. He was the second of the six children; his brother was the great General Vicente Lucban. He took up medicine at the University of Santo Tomas. Lucban rendered his service as medical officer in the revolution against Spain.

He was one of those who signed the Pact of Biak-na-Bato.

He joined the battle for freedom against the Americans in 1898 and affixed his signature in the Malolos Congress on September 15, 1898 representing his hometown Ambos, Camarines. He eventually became the editor of the *La Independencia*, a newspaper advocating for Philippine Independence in 1906. He became active in politics when he represented the first district of Manila and the third to be appointed as mayor of Manila in 1917. Lukban was credited for building the Rizal Avenue, Jones Bridge, and putting up schools, public baths and toilets, and his battle against prostitution. His service to the public was disrupted because of heart ailment, dying at the age of 64 on September 2, 1927.

We should also remember the great deeds of lesser known Filipinos regardless of their position and status in society. Today's generation must correct the errors that have been committed in the past by recording the events and personalities with fairness that occupy important places in our country's history and cultural heritage.



THE FIERCE LION OF VISAYAS: THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE OF LEON KILAT

by **Mona Lisa Quizon**
History Researcher II
National Historical Institute

The revolution in Cebu during the Spanish period was accredited to one of its unsung heroes — Pantaleon Villegas. Pantaleon Villegas was born on 27 July 1873 in Bacong, Negros Oriental to Policarpio Villegas, a farmer, and Ursula Solde, a *sinamay* weaver. Pantaleon didn't receive much education; as a young boy, he was a servant to the Spanish priest of Tolong by the name of Fr. Angel who taught him how to read, write, and recite prayers. When the priest sailed for Manila, he brought along Pantaleon but due to abuse from this priest, Pantaleon left him and lived by himself. How he survived in Manila in not known.

He tried to return home but instead found himself in Cebu. There, he became an employee of MacLeod & Co. as an abaca press laborer; as a houseboy in Botica Antigua owned by a German, Kraffen Bauer; as a baker for Pascuala Cala's bakeshop; as a jockey-horse trainer for Federico Laing; and later he was employed in the branch office of the Singer Sewing Machine Co.

Also, according to some sources, sometime in 1896, he joined a circus troop in Manila. While in Manila, he joined the Katipunan. While some sources say that he was selected by the Singer Sewing Machine to accompany their manager to Manila where he got introduced to the secret society which he soon joined. He was arrested and imprisoned at the outbreak of the revolution and later escaped from his cell where he rejoined the revolutionary group.

In the Katipunan, he adopted the name Leon Kilat (Leon being the shortened form for Pantaleon and *kilat* meaning lightning in his dialect). Later, when the Visayas had joined the cause of the Katipunan, Leon Kilat was commissioned as a general to Cebu to propagate the ideals of the revolution. During that time, he was very active with the propaganda work but when he learned of the Camba massacre, he promised he will retaliate for the Filipino victims.

Leon Kilat suspected a spy

The first step he did in Cebu was to acquaint with local leaders with the same goals as the Katipunan. He presented himself to Cebuano leaders, among them Andres Abellana, Candido Padilla, and Florencio Gonzales. The latter were quite suspicious of Leon Kilat, they thought that he was spying for the Spaniards but in the end their doubts were dispelled after they received a communication for Aguinaldo informing them that Leon Kilat was on a mission in Cebu.

Leon Kilat also met with other rebels at the house of an affluent Chinese merchant, Uy Ma Yan, in the town of San Nicolas to plan their moves. They decided to seize the provincial capital on Good Friday, 1898. Unfortunately the plan failed when some of the participants were arrested even before any step was taken. They changed their plan; they seized Talisay instead on April 1. The town put only a token resistance. Within two days, they won the battle against Spanish forces led by Adolfo Montero and Captains Monfort, Gutierrez, and Iboloen, the following day, they entered Cebu City.

Gen. Pantaleon Villegas led the revolt against Spanish forces in Cebu City with some 6,000 rebels, armed with bolos and few fire-arms. He ordered the occupancy of the city as the 40 Spanish soldiers stationed at the garrison chose not to resist the attack. The rebels took the convent, plundered the churches, sacked the home of Spanish inhabitants, and looted and later burned the stores. They killed three Spanish civilians, took eight Spanish friars from the *cota* (little fort) on the beach as hostages, and shot three escapees.

It was in this bloody encounter that Pantaleon struck "like a lightning", hence the name Leon Kilat.

However, the arrival of the gunboat, Maria Cristina, from Mindanao with 50 soldiers and 240 troopers on April 7 and the presence of reinforcements commanded by General Tejeiro from Manila forced the rebels to retreat to the south. There, they suffered heavy losses and many of their leaders were captured, among them Padilla, and Captains Olimpio Regis and Emilio Regis.

Leon Kilat and his men moved farther to Carcar for two reasons; first, the presence of stores of food and supplies in the area and the location was not within the cannon range from the seacoast. They abruptly formed a war council together with Troadio Galicano, Fructuoso Ramos, Tomas Olanzo, and Solomon Manalili. Afterwards, Leon Kilat, exhausted by the days of battle, fell in deep sleep and while asleep, was murdered perhaps by a political opponent or by faithful residents of Carcar who opposed the plan to make the place a rebel stronghold. The following day, three of his companions were shot to death. The remains of the four dead bodies were transported in a cart and thrown in a pit outside the Catholic cemetery.

The heroism of Pantaleon Villegas and other Filipinos deserve to be commemorated as a reminder of their love for freedom and democracy.



The other battle of Zapote: The Filipinos' bloody defense of the Motherland

Ma. **Cielito G. Reyno**
History Researcher
National Historical Institute

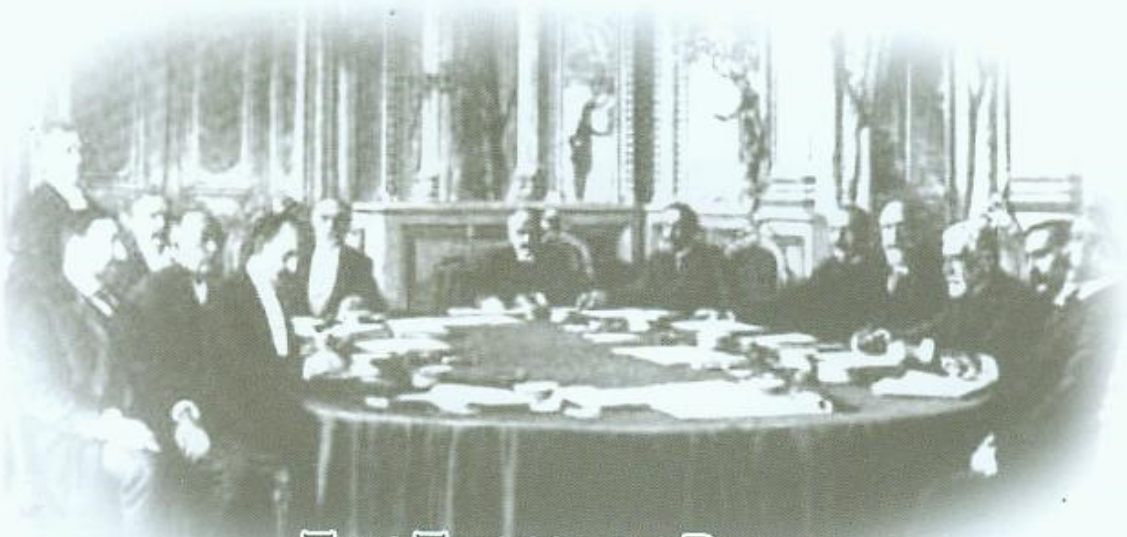
A year after General Emilio Aguinaldo declared the independence of the Philippines on 12 June 1898, the Filipinos made one of their bravest and strongest stands to defend their hard-won freedom against a new colonial invader at the battle in Zapote Bridge in Bacoor, Cavite on 13 June 1899. Having gained control of the Pasig River, the US army now moved north to crush the Filipinos. It had swept through south of Luzon, though not without fierce resistance from the Filipinos, and reached Parañaque on 10 June. Brig. Gen. Henry W. Lawton had been transferred to the south by Maj. Gen. Elwell S. Otis to take command of the southern force composed of two brigades (equivalent to 4,000 men). He was assisted by Brigadier Generals Lloyd Wheaton (also transferred from the north) and Samuel Ovenshine. On the Filipino side, Generals Artemio Ricarte and Mariano Noriel commanded a combined 3,000-man infantry force.

The aim of the US forces was to enter Cavite province. Lawton and Wheaton's forces trekked from Makati toward Muntinlupa, but near Sucat, Wheaton's force was overwhelmed by the unit under Col. Lucas Camerino, forcing Wheaton to seek assistance from Ovenshine. Not long after, Wheaton was again turned back by Lt. Col. Antero Reyes and his battalion. Meanwhile, while it had successfully foiled the Filipino force at Guadalupe, Lawton's troops were almost dehydrated by the oppressive Philippine heat, forcing them to unload and reduce their clothing.

According to historians, had the Filipinos taken advantage of the hapless situation of the US forces by consolidating their forces and tightening their attack, the Americans, or at least Lawton's division, would easily have been decimated.

As it was, the Americans managed to reconsolidate and recover their strength, with one regiment replaced by Lawton for the purpose, and by June 13, they were ready to face the 4,000-strong Caviteño force entrenched behind five-feet thick trenches on the west bank of the Zapote Bridge. This bridge was crucial for it was the entrance to Cavite province. Using a Spanish cannon, a holdover from the revolution against Spain, the Filipinos destroyed the bridge to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Americans. The Americans retaliated with shellfire from the opposite side. The battle raged on with the Filipinos turning back several waves of American troops, blocking every attempt to penetrate Cavite. The Filipinos would not give easily, many of them said to have prepared for battle by undergoing purification rites and pledging the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of the bridge. For them it was a veritable struggle not only between Filipinos and white men but, between good and evil.

In the end, the tide was turned against the Filipinos when almost a hundred sailors armed with machineguns were unleashed from two battleships. The Filipinos were forced to give up Zapote, and blood flowed from thousands of their ranks -- thus fulfilling their vows to the Motherland and turning that struggle into one of the defining moments of the bravery of the Filipino nation.



The Treaty of Paris: An Instrument of Peace or a Sign of Betrayal?

Chris Antonette Piedad-Pugay
Senior History Researcher
National Historical Institute

One of the major events that shaped the destiny of the Philippines was the Spanish-American War that broke out in 1898. Relations between Spain and the US were severed when the Cuban Revolution drew the United States to the side of the Cuban insurgents basically to protect their economic investments in the island. On 15 February 1898, the American warship *Maine* was blown up at Havana harbor, giving the US an excuse to declare a state of war against Spain. Soon after, the Battle of Manila bay was fought and the Americans reached the Philippines.

On 19 May 1898, Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, upon the persuasion of American Consul E. Spencer Pratt and upon the advice of the Hong Kong Junta, returned to the Philippines. He immediately issued a proclamation urging Filipinos to rally for the motherland. The reaction of the Filipinos to his call was overwhelming and this was followed with sweeping victories. While the Filipino forces were in Manila by June 1898, the American and Spanish authorities engaged in secret negotiations paving way for a mock battle on 13 August 1898 and eventually a surrender that would deprive the Filipinos the taste of victory.

When the Protocol of Peace was signed on 12 August 1898, five Americans and five Spanish commissioners met in Paris to discuss peace terms between the two countries. Aguinaldo sent Felipe Agoncillo to Washington to represent the revolutionary government of the Philippines, but President McKinley declined to recognize him as such. The commission met from October to December 1898 and agreed that some colonies of Spain including the Philippines be ceded to the United States. On 10 December 1898, without Filipino representation and consultation, the Treaty of Paris was concluded. It was signed by representatives from the US government namely: Cushman Davis, William Frye, Whitelaw Reid, George Gray, and William Day. The Spanish delegation on the other hand was composed of

Eugenio Montero Rios, Buenaventura Abarzuza, Jose de Garnica, Wenceslao Ramirez de Villa-Urrutia, and Rafael Cerero.

The articles of the Treaty

Art. I-IV. The Treaty of Paris was made up of 13 articles that stipulated the conditions, obligations, as well as the benefits that Spain and United States would enjoy over the ceded islands. The first three articles were on the relinquishment of Spain on her claims over its former colonies including Cuba, Puerto Rico, and other islands in the West Indies, and the Philippine Islands. Article III stated that an amount of $20M will be paid by the US to Spain after the treaty's ratification; while in Article IV, it stated that 10 years after the ratification, the US would admit Spanish ships and merchandizes with the same terms as that of American goods and vessels.

Art. V-VI. In Article V, the American government assured Spain that all Spanish soldiers taken as prisoners of war will be freed and sent back to their country. It also stated that Spain should vacate the ceded territories in accordance with the Protocol of Peace signed on 12 August 1898. The same article also confirmed that properties belonging to the naval forces of Spain in the ceded territories shall remain the property of Spain. Article VI declared that the two governments would release prisoners of war, particularly insurgents of Cuba and the Philippines.

Art. VII-VIII. While claims for all kinds of indemnity were relinquished by both governments in Article VII, Article VIII made clear, however, that relinquishment will not impair the rights belonging to the peaceful possessions of provinces, municipalities, and to the public and private establishments in the ceded territories. Spain's relinquishment was also extended to documents and archival materials that may be found in the ceded territories or in Spain.

Art. IX-XI. Article IX emphasized that Spanish subjects and natives residing in the ceded territories may remain in the territories and preserve their allegiance to Spain before a record of court. Failure to do so in a year after the treaty's ratification would make them adopt the nationality of the territories where they reside. Freedom of religion was given weight in Article X while Article XI upheld that Spaniards residing in the ceded territories would be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the country/territory where they reside in accordance to the judicial procedures and implementations.

Art. XII-XVII. It was also agreed that Spanish academic and literary works would be admitted in the ceded territories free from dues, in a period of 10 years; this provision was included in Article XIII of the treaty. Spain's right to establish consular offices and officers in the ports and some areas of the ceded territories was provided in Article XIV. Meanwhile, Article XV stated that free dues and charges would only be honored for 10 years. The US government in Article XVI cleared that its obligation to Cuba is limited only during its occupancy and upon its termination; the created government in the said country will assume responsibility. Lastly, Article XVII said that the treaty will be subjected to ratification by the US President with the aid of the US Senate and by the Queen Regent of Spain. Ratification was expected to be exchanged six months from the date of the treaty's conclusion.

The treaty did not go on effect until after its ratification. Initially, many American senators did not favor it for they thought of it as unfair to the Filipinos and a manifestation of imperialism. Unfortunately, the Filipino-American hostilities that erupted on 4 February 1899 in the Philippines (known as the "First Shot") changed the course of the tide. American propaganda made it appear that the Filipinos instigated the hostility causing the breach of alliance and trust. Two days after, the treaty was ratified with two thirds of the majority in the US Senate.

The American and Spanish government looked on the Treaty of Paris as an instrument of peace, but the Filipinos resented its conclusion and ratification since they were not consulted and considered in its making. Further, the provisions of the treaty were not for the benefit of the Filipinos but for the imperialists instead. With the signing and ratification of the Treaty of Paris, the bitter relations between the Americans and the Filipinos turned more bitter that eventually led to another episode that was known as Filipino-American War.

NATIONAL FLAG DAYS

MAY 28 TO JUNE 12
PER RA 8491

This year's lead agencies for the implementation of National Flag Awareness/Advocacy campaign are the Department of Education, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Philippine Information Agency, and the National Historical Institute, which launch the "Paggalang sa Watawat" campaign on May 26 at the Quezon City Hall.

This year's June 12 national chairman, Education Secretary Jesli Lapus, says the launching activity kicks off the 2008 National Flag Day to coincide with the Battle of Alapan in Cavite on May 28 and this year's 110th Independence Day celebration.

Lapus says this year's celebration is geared to reawaken the Filipino people of their responsibility and patriotic commitment especially the youth to commemorate the herois, nationalism, and self-sacrifice of our forefathers in the struggle for independence. Also, this year's activities will instill in our minds the greatness of our race, the legacy of our heroes, and the ideals of nationhood.







Secretary Lito Atienza of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources the lead Flag Advocate states that "the Philippine flag reflects the natural beauty of our country. If we love and respect the Philippine flag, it could be said that we also have love and respect for our country."

He recalls how the Philippine flag was raised on July 4, 1946. "Trees were festooned with Philippine flags. In the streets, people burst out patriotic songs or join parades. The joyous crowds fell into reverential silence as the American flag started coming down, and the Philippine flag started coming up. In a few moments, the Philippine flag was flying alone."

Flag raising in Quezon City

Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte urged Filipinos to take to heart the national flag as it symbolizes the bravery of our heroes and ancestors in struggling and winning independence for the nation. He also urged the people to make the national flag their inspiration to do good. At the same time, he sought public support for President Arroyo's program of government.





PIA Secretary Conrado A. Limcaoco, as part of the Flag Advocacy Information Campaign, stresses that the "Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines, Republic Act 8491, states that every year, from May 28 (National Flag Day) to June 12 (Independence Day), all private and public facilities are enjoined to display the Philippine flag visibly in their premises. This is to instill respect and reverence for the country's highest symbol of national sovereignty."



QUEZON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

For his part, PIA Secretary Conrado A. Limcaoco Jr. says that this year's theme for the flag campaign is "Igalang ang Ating Watawat, sa Isip, sa Salita at sa Gawa" which aimed to promote public awareness on good citizenship. It instills values such as love of country, respect and reverence for the flag and the national anthem, using trimedia, online media, and other special events.

In the afternoon, Secretary Lapus leads a solemn flag disposal ceremony where a memo of understanding is signed between and among the DepEd, NHI, DILG, and PIA for the flag advocacy program where flag advocates from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao is presented to implement a more reinvigorated reverence and respect program for the Philippine flag and the national anthem to be observed in all elementary and high schools nationwide.







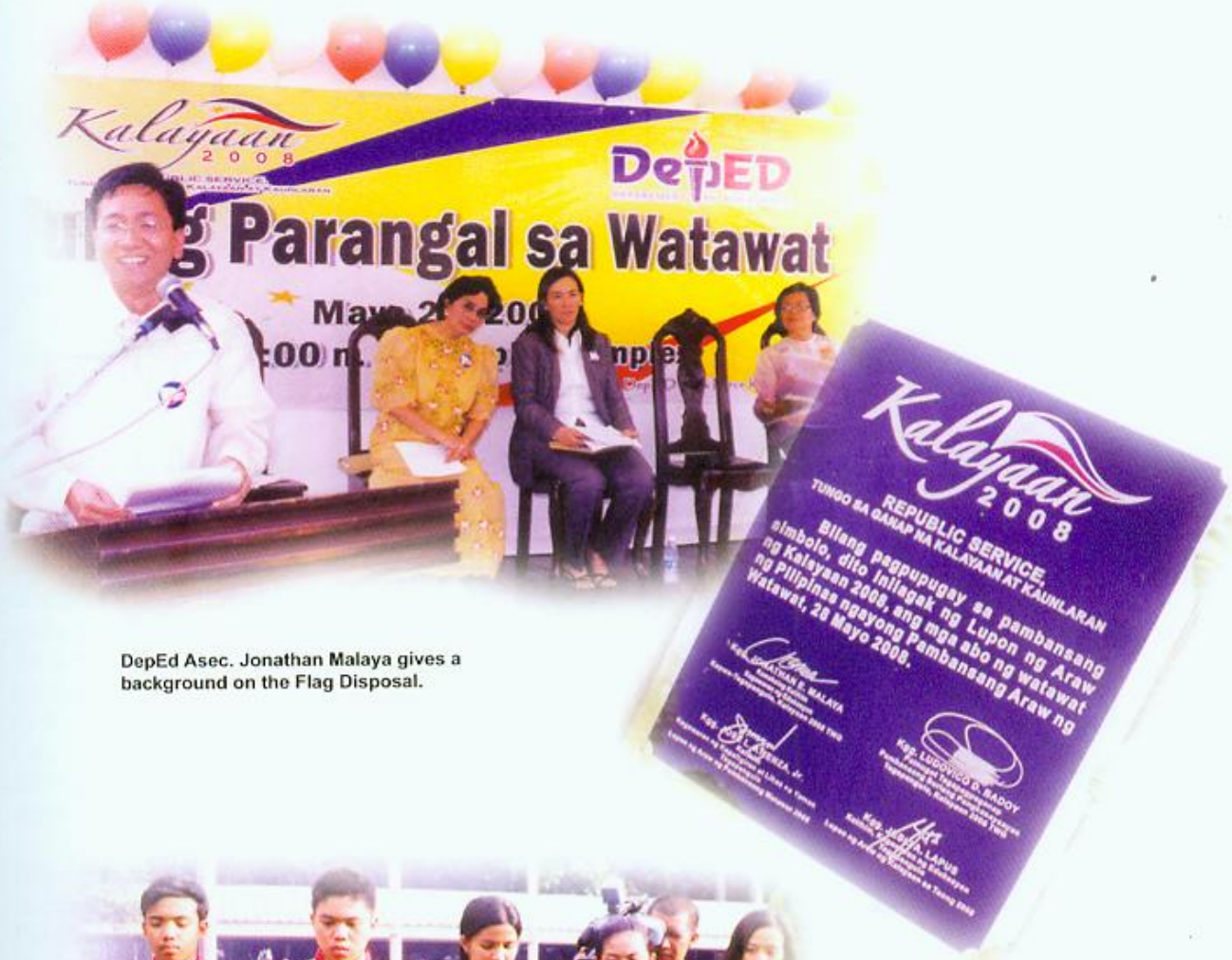


Flag raising in Imus, Cavite. Secretary Lino Atienza of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (right), chairman of this year's Flag Advocacy Committee, and Secretary Jesli Lapus of the Department of Education raise a giant Philippine flag at the site of the Battle of Alapan in Imus, Cavite, during the celebration of national flag day as it symbolizes the bravery of the nation's heroes who fought and died for Philippine Independence. Other officials who participated in the flag raising ceremony were Cavite Gov. Erineo S. Maliksi, Imus Mayor Emmanuel L. Maliksi, Executive director Ludovico Badoy of the National Historicl Institute, and former Prime Minister and President of Cavite Historical Society Cesar E.A. Virata.



The Philippine Flag in red, white, and blue balloons, the Flag Advocates and Quezon City officials.





DepEd Asec. Jonathan Malaya gives a background on the Flag Disposal.





DepEd Asec. Teresita Inciong, Asec. Jonathan Malaya and NHI Deputy Executive Director E. Almosara witnessing the Flag disposal rites.

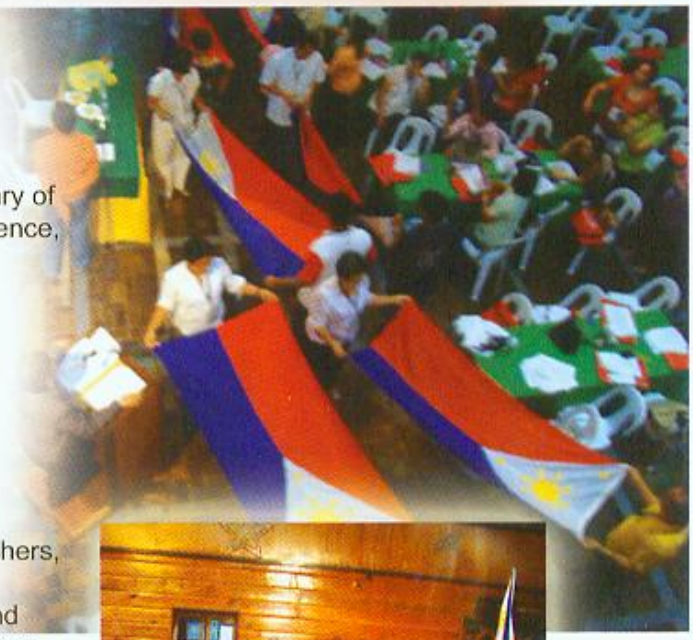


Flag Disposal Ceremony at the Department of Education grounds with Asec. Teresita C. Inciong.



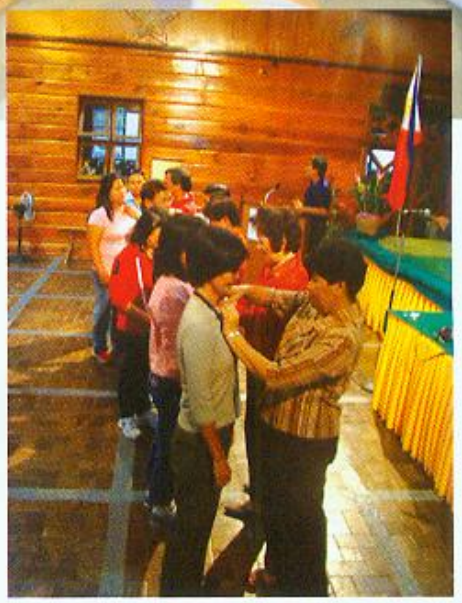
Flag workshop

In cognizance of the significance of the national flag day and the 110th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence, the Department of Education, headed by Secretary Jesli Lapus, conducts Flag and Anthem Advocacy Workshop 2008 as directed by President Arroyo in Administrative Order 205.



Organized by DepEd, NHI, PIA, DILG, Heritage Center Institute, and Tawid Publications, the workshop in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao aim to train teachers, principals, elementary and high school students nationwide about the history and development, musical elements and proper singing and conducting of the Philippine National Anthem, as well as an orientation of Republic Act, the Heraldic Code and media advocacy strategies in promoting respect and reverence for the flag and national anthem.

Raul M. Sunico, dean of the Conservatory of Music, University of Sto. Tomas, speaker of the history and development of the Philippine National Anthem led the major resource persons of the workshop.





The team of resource speakers of the Flag Advocacy Workshop led by Prof. Raul M. Sunico.



Kalayaan 2008

REPUBLIC SERVICE TUNGO SA GANAP NA KALAYAAN AT KAUNLARAN

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo



"Isang siglo't isang dekada na ang nakalipas mula noong ideklara ang kasarinlan ng bagong Republikang Pilipinas doon sa Kawit, Cavite. Noon tulad din ngayon, maraming banta at maraming hamon ang hinarap ng ating bayan. Kahit isinigaw na ang kasarinlan sa Kawit, marami pa ring bahagi ng Pilipinas ang nasa ilalim ng puwersa ng kolonyalismo.

Nguni't hindi umatras ang mga bayaning nagtatag ng ating bayan. Hindi sila nagpagapi sa anumang pag-aalinlangan tungkol sa kanilang magiging kinabukasan. Bagkus, pinalakas nila ang loob ng buong sambayanan upang ipaalam sa buong mundo na may bagong silang na bansa, ang bansang Pilipinas, na handang lumahok sa komunidad ng malalayang bansa sa buong mundo.





President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo with this year's Independence Day NOC Chair DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus, NHI Chair Ambeth Ocampo, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim, DND Chief of Staff Gen. Alexander Yano, and MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando.



Sa kasalukuyang panahon, sa harap ng mga banta at hamon na hatid ng kapalaran ng buong mundo, dapat nating isaloob at patuloy na buhayin ang mga katangiang nagbigay-dakila sa ating mga ama, ina ng ating bayan. Ang kanilang magiging makabayan, ang pagmamalasakit sa kapwa, ang tibay ng kanilang kapasiyahan na magtatag at magtanggol sa isang malaya at maunlad na bansa.

Para sa ating Independence Day sa taong ito, ang bumabalot na tema ay ang "Republic Service sa Ganap na Kalayaan at Kaunlaran."



Ang pananagutang maglingkod ay lalong matingkad na ihandog sa hanay ng mahihirap, pinakamahihirap sa ating kababayan, na kasalukuyang hinahagupit ng mga kasalukuyang suliranin hatid ng pandaigdigang ekonomiya. Kung hindi man natin kayang iwasan ang mga problemang ito na angkat mula sa ibayong dako, saklaw pa rin ng ating tungkulin ang mamahagi ng tulong para sa pinahihirapan nito.



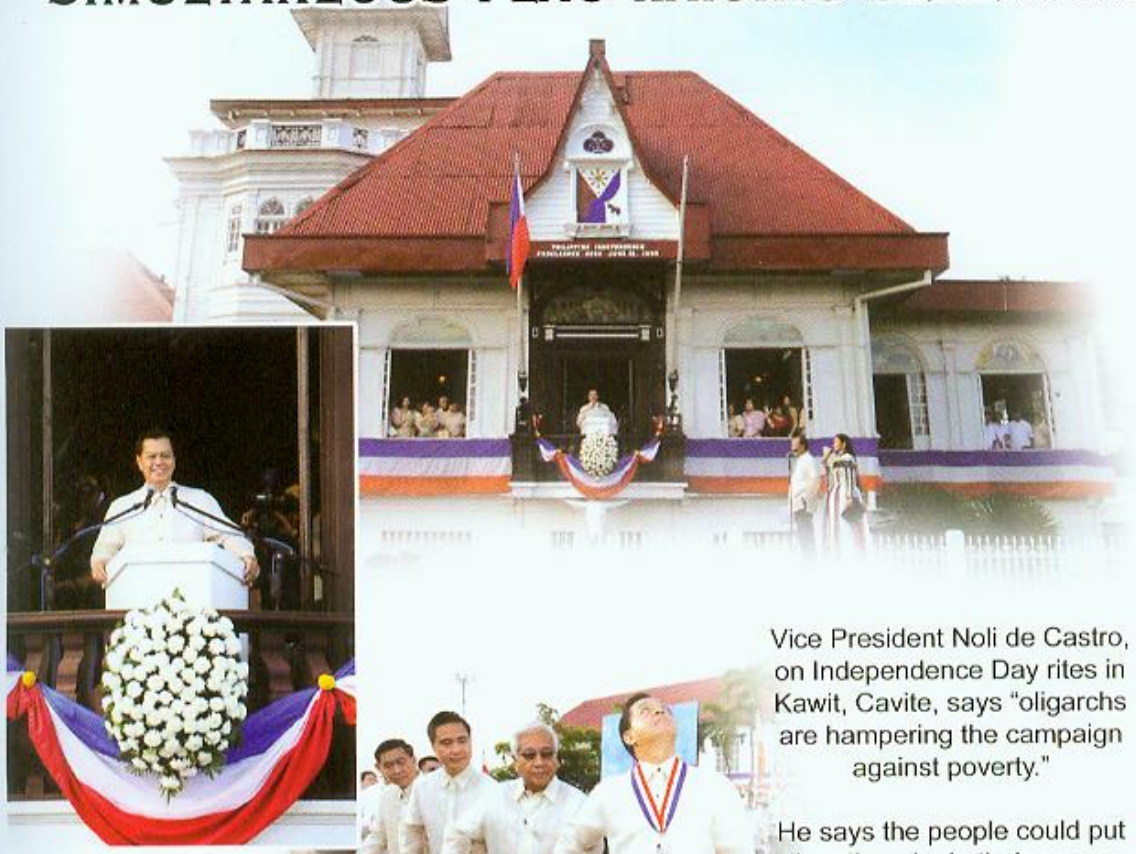
President Arroyo distributes certificates of awards of livelihood for agri-related activities and small scale entrepreneurs for farmers/fishermen and womenfolk. She is assisted by PMS Secretary Cerge Remonde.



Itinaguyod ng ating mga sinaunang bayani ang isang bagong bayan sa pamamagitan ng kanilang pagbuklod, pagsakripisyo at pag-iisang damdamin. Kung pupunuin din ang ating mga puso ng kasintulad na pagmamahal sa bayan, makakamit din natin ang matatamis na bunga ng kalayaan, katarungan at kaunlaran. Makakahanay din natin ang ibang mga dakila't malalayang bansa sa mundo."

Kalayaan 2008

SIMULTANEOUS FLAG RAISING CEREMONY



Vice President Noli de Castro, on Independence Day rites in Kawit, Cavite, says "oligarchs are hampering the campaign against poverty."

He says the people could put the oligarchs in their proper place by, among others, pushing for transparency in the public and private sector and using the market to weaken monopolies.



Local officials of Kawit, Cavite led by Governor Ayong Maliksi assist the Vice President.





Senate President Manuel Villar Jr. leads the celebration of the Independence Day at the Pinaglabanan Shrine in San Juan City. Villar launches the Sipag at Tiyaga Caravan Pangkabuhayan at Barangay Isabelita covered court. Likewise, Trade Secretary Peter Favila visits various day care centers around the area and also facilitates rice feeding programs. Senate President Villar is assisted by prominent local officials of San Juan such as Congressman Ronaldo Zamora and Mayor JV Ejercito.

Speaker Prospero Nograles and Secretary Jake Lagonera with the Congressional Ladies lead the celebration at the Barasoain Church in Malolos City, Bulacan. The first Philippine Congress which drafted the Malolos Constitution and the inauguration of the first Philippine Republic were held in Barasoain Church. Bulacan is represented as one of the eight rays of the sun in the Philippine flag.

















President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is assisted by Education Secretary Jesli Lapus, this year's chairman of the 2008 June 12 National Organizing Committee of the Independence Day celebration.

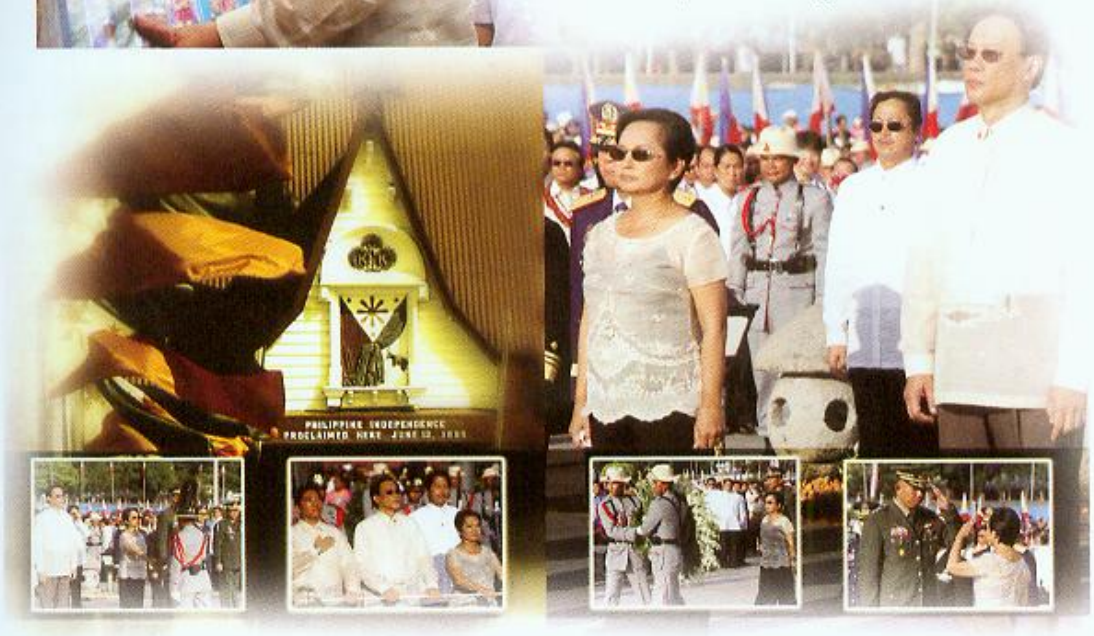


The President with this year's NOC Chair DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus and Co-Chair NHI Chair Ambeth Ocampo and other NOC officials.





Lapus said the centerpiece of the celebration from June 9 to 12 at the San Lorenzo Ruiz Plaza at the Rizal Park features "Sentro K3: which stands for Kaisahan, Kagalingan at Kalayaan ng Bayan, and covers a showcase of cultural, arts, trade and government services.











Chief Justice Reynato Puno heads the celebration at the Bonifacio National Monument in Caloocan City to give respect to the founder of the Katipunan, Andres Bonifacio with DOTC Secretary Leandro Mendoza and Mayor Recom Echiverri.

In his Independence Day speech, he said "foreign economic powers are the present-day oppressors of Filipinos because they use their money and influence to trample on the social and economic rights of the people."



Transportation Secretary Mendoza is assisted by Asec. Lastimoso in the groundbreaking of the MRT-LRT loop as part of infrastructure development program, a priority project of President Arroyo.



DND Secretary Gilberto Teodoro with Manila Vice Mayor Isko Moreno and Gemma Cruz Araneta at the Mausoleo de los Veteranos de la Revolucion.







SENTRO K OPENING WITH SENATOR GORDON



Sentro K3 is launched by Senator Richard Gordon. The service theme of this year's 110th Philippine Independence Day centers on Sentro K3 (Kagalingan, Kaisahan at Kalayaan ng Bayan) at the Luneta. Replicated all over the archipelago with cabinet members standing in for the President, the Sentro K3 programs includes:

- ***Ang Galing-Galing Natin*** – a showcase where government agencies provide relevant and interesting exhibits, lectures and audio-visual shows to visitors who drop by to learn about what government is doing for the people.







- ***Bayan Ko, Lapit sa Puso Ko*** – participating agencies provide services to the public involving jobs, housing, health, investments, among other things. The DoLE provides job fairs, housing by HUDCC, medical and dental services by DoH and DND.
- ***Wow, Pinoy Ngayon*** – a presentation of great Filipino talents in various areas: sports entertainment, sciences, arts and culture led by NCCA and CCP. The NCCA offers the Kalahi Cultural Caregiving



Senator Richard Gordon, Sentro K Guest of Honor with NHI Executive Director Ludovico Badoy and DOT Usec. Oscar Palabyab.

workshops such as wood carving, pottery making, papier mache making, and others in cooperation with the National Parks Development Committee.

- ***Food trips*** – visitors taste the best Filipino cuisine at stalls at affordable prices.
- ***Lakad-Aral sa Liwasan*** – free park tours for visitors.
- ***One-Town-One-Product (OTOP)*** – DTI conducts showcase of Philippine products from various regions.

Manila has been chosen as the center of the celebration because it represents one of the eight rays of the sun in the Philippine flag, which symbolizes the first eight provinces that revolted against Spain to gain the nation's freedom.

DOT Director Romulo T. de los Reyes is the Sentro K creative director assisted by NHI Executive Director Ludovico Badoy and DepEd Asec. Jonathan Malaya.



Sentro K Executive Director Romulo T. de los Reyes with Senator Gordon, Governor "Among" Panlilio, and other NOC officials.





NOC Technical Working staff led by NHI Executive Director Badoy.

Kalayaan 2008

SENTRO K DAY EXHIBIT/PALABAS

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo said the simpler and "out of the box" Independence Day commemoration is in keeping with her government's efforts to conserve resources for social services.

"Hinihiling ko ngayon na magkaisa tayong lahat alang-alang sa pamilya ng bawat mamamayan, alang-alang sa mga darating pang salinlahi," President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said.



Cultural dancers at Sentro K.



People from all walks of life line up for medical/ dental services, livelihood, local and foreign jobs, microfinancing, and housing opportunities.







DepEd exhibitors distribute educational books and reading materials to people who trooped to Sentro K.





DND Secretary Gilberto Teodoro chats with a housewife doing her livelihood (left photo) and looking at some sampling of military weaponry.

The President asked the public not to let heroes' patriotism and struggles to establish an independent and progressive country to go to waste.

"We have decided that in keeping with how we are trying to conserve our resources . . . during this period of high world prices of oil and food . . . to dispense with the parade and use the budget instead to give direct service to the poor," the President said.





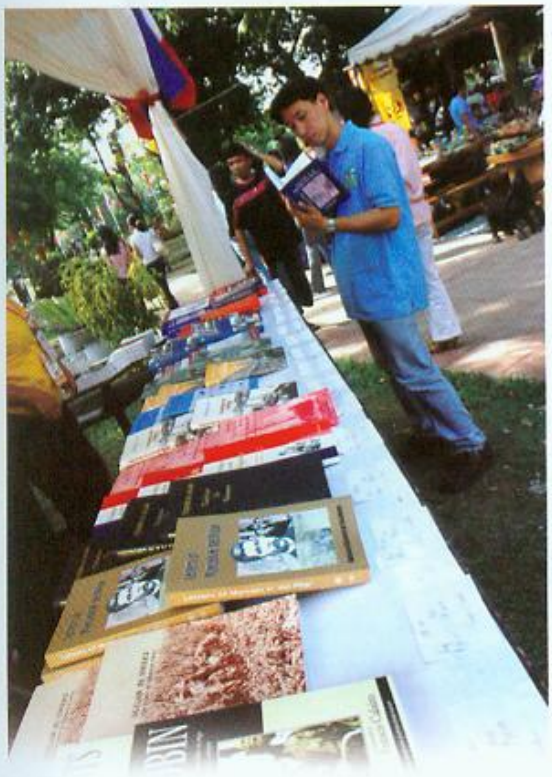












PMS Secretary Cerge Remonde says "the 'one-stop-shop' Sentro K aims to bring government closer to the people nationwide."

President Arroyo opened the Sentro K3 or the Kaisahan, Kagalingan, at Kalayaan ng Bayan at the Quirino Grandstand which included job fairs, sports and culture activities, medical assistance, technology transfer seminars, and agri-aqua exhibits.

Among the booths are "Bayan Ko, Lapit sa Puso Ko" on pro-poor programs like housing; "Wow, Pinoy Ngayon" on Filipino talents in sports, entertainment, sciences, and culture; "Food Trips" on Filipino food and food

NHI historical book sale.



DTI Secretary Peter Favila checks the regional booths with OTOP products.

companies; "Lakad-aral sa Liwasan" on park tours; and the "One Town One Product" which is promoting the best products from different regions.

Also included is the DOLE's mega jobs fair nationwide and livelihood fair of 15 thousand job vacancies, online employment facilitation services, complemented by a livelihood poverty-free zone program in NCR among others.



On cultural day, one of our popular artists, Francis Magalona (right), sings his popular rap song *Mga Kababayan Ko*.

Kalayaan 2008

CABSECS GO TO THE REGIONS: FOR A DIFFERENT JUNE 12





The Metro Manila Development Authority and its chairman, Bayani Fernando, leads its Pink Brigade in the clean up of esteros. Fernando also undertakes feeding activities for children in Divisoria and opens its second condotel.





110th Independence Day Celebration
Katas ng EVAT: Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino
Distribution of cash assistance/conditional cash transfer cards led by DSWD Secretary Esperenza Cabral with Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista in
Pugad Lawin, Payatas, Quezon City

Independence Day activities focus on poor Pinoys

- Pro-poor services, include food security. Livelihood assistance, housing projects and healthcare programs is the highlight of the 110th Independence Day celebration on June 12.
- During the observance of Independence Day, other major activities include feeding programs for schoolchildren, distribution of conditional Cash TransferCards, education, care for the environment, energy independence thrusts, among others.
- Vice President Noli de Castro leads the Kawit, Cavite celebration and highlights the government's housing programs while Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap leads a multi town FIELDs fertilizer, irrigation, education and training, loans, dryers, and other post harvest facilities, seeds, caravan in San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.
- In Calamba, Laguna, the theme focuses on the environment with a caravan for Laguna de Bay clean up and tree planting at Mt. Makiling with DENR Secretary Atienza. In the Bicol Region, the spotlight is on tourism, with a caravan showcasing the country's natural beauty.
- Energy independence takes center stage at Bacolod City with a caravan featuring the government's biofuel projects led by DOE Secretary Angelo Reyes. In Iloilo City, training vouchers are distributed, while health programs top bills the Cebu City activity,
- Pro-poor services in Northern Samar and Dinagat Island, social services for Lumads in Davao City and distribution of agrarian reform community projects in ARMM are among the other highlights of the Independence Day celebration.

REGION III
TARLAC



DOST Secretary Estrella F. Alabastro at the flag-raising ceremonies with the Hon. Marcelo Aganon, Jr., Vice-Governor of Tarlac, for the 110th Araw ng Kalayaan ceremonies at the Tarlac Provincial Capitol.

REGION III
ANGELES PAMPANGA



Secretary Ed Pamintuan opens the Pamintuan House, Angeles City and the Republic Service Center.



The Secretary addressing the body during the 2008 Araw ng Kalayaan program at the Tarlac Provincial Capitol. Former Governor Jose "Apeng" Yap, the father of current Governor Victor Yap (third from right), listens intently.



REGION III
SAN ISIDRO, NUEVA ECIJA



DA Secretary Arthur Yap and Congressman Rodolfo W. Antonino lead caravan on FIELDs and Food Caravan under PGMA's food security program in San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.



REGION IV-B
CALAPAN, ORIENTAL MINDORO





Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye awards a trophy to the winner of the essay writing contest on the theme: Modern Day Heroes of Mindoro.





REGION I
CANDON, ILOCOS SUR



The singing of the national anthem with DPWH Sec. Hermogenes Ebdane, House Deputy Speaker Eric D. Singson, Ilocos Sur Gov. Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Vice-Governor Jerry Singson and City Mayor Allen G. Singson.



Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane distributes cash gifts and food assistance to the indigent-recipients of the Oyster program in Region I.



CAR
LA TRINIDAD, BAGUIO

A flag the size of great



The biggest Philippine flag measuring 100 x 200 meters at Baguio City's athletic bowl.





CICT Secretary Ray Anthony Roxas-Chua launches the internet services in BSU, the Benguet National High School in La Trinidad and Baguio National High School in Baguio.

REGION II
ISABELA



Secretary Silvestre Bello with Isabela Governor Grace Padaca and visitors gather at the labor lobby of the new DA-CO; does ocular inspection in other parts of the building.



The Secretary speaks before a big crowd during the DA-CO inauguration and Independence Day program.

REGION IV-A
STA. CRUZ, LAGUNA

Governor Teresita "Nining" Lazaro meets DENR Secretary Joselito Atienza at Rizal Shrine in Calamba, Laguna.



After the flag raising ceremonies, Secretary Atienza distributed land titles, led in cleaning of Laguna de Bay and tree planting.



Secretary Bello with RDC chair NV Bishop Ramon Villena and regional directors of line agencies meet after the inauguration of the DA Central Office building at Ilagan, Isabela.



REGION IV-A
TAAL, BATANGAS



Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, originally from Balayan, Batangas, leads the Independence Day flag raising ceremony with Batangas local officials at the Marcela N. Agoncillo historical landmark. Taal is the birthplace of Marcela N. Agoncillo, the maker of the first official Filipino flag during the Philippine revolution against the Spanish authorities. The different flags of the revolution are also prominently displayed.

REGION V
ALBAY, BICOL







DOT Secretary Ace Durano with Mayor Jesse Lobredo.

REGION VI
BACOLOD, ILOILO



Secretary Durano opens the Grassroots Entrepreneurship and employment opportunities and distribution of Tourism packages (GREET).

DOE Secretary Angelo Reyes talks on energy independence in Bacolod City with a caravan featuring the government's biofuel projects.



REGION VI
STA. BARBARA, ILOILO



TESDA Secretary Augusto "Boboy" Syjuco delivers a meesage during the Peoples Day Program, June 12, 2008 in Sta. Barbara, Iloilo.



The Secretary turns-over certificates of scholarships for beneficiaries in Alimodian, Iloilo, to Alimodian Mayor Juanito Alipao.

REGION VI
JARO, ILOILO



Secretary Raul Gonzales, Mayor Jerry Treñas, ABC President Irene Ong and PNP 6 Regional Director Isagani Cuevas during the June 12 Flag raising ceremonies at Jaro Plaza.



The Justice Secretary leads the turn-over of Botika ng Barangay to five Barangay Captains in Iloilo City at the Graciano Lopez-Jaena Shrine, Jaro Plaza, Iloilo City.

REGION VII
CEBU





DOH Secretary Francisco Duque III opening the Kidney-Heart-Lung Center in Cebu Provincial Capitol.



The Secretary with Cebu Governor Gwendolyn Garcia.

REGION VIII
ORMOC, LEYTE



Secretary Sergio Apostol delivering his message during the Regional celebration of the 110th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, Ormoc City Stage, June 12



The Secretary with Mayor Eric Codilla during the Regional celebration of the 110th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, Ormoc.



Secretary Apostol inaugurates the DSWD Anti-Poverty Program with a job fair and medical/dental mission.

REGION X
CAGAYAN, DE ORO





CHED Secretary Romulo Neri stresses the authentication of school records in various regional offices and distributes college scholarships.



REGION IX
FORT PILAR, ZAMBOANGA

DOF Secretary Margarito Teves along with other guests during the flag raising ceremony. He also leads in the distribution of checks to intended beneficiaries in coordination with Quedancor, Land Bank, and the Development Bank of the Philippines.



Booth showcasing the agency services, programs and projects during the SENTRO K3 trade exhibit held at the Fort Pilar court yard, Zamboanga City.

REGION XII
PIKIT, NORTH COTABATO







DILG Usec. Austere Panadero offers existing programs such as Cadetship PNP, BJMP, and BFP; I-report Mo Kay Mamang Pulis/Complaint & Referral Action Center.

ARMM





DAR Secretary Nasser Pangandaman leads in the distribution of CLOA to farmers in Maguindanao and Shariff Kabunsuan; Certificate of Merit for Pres. Diosdado Macapagal DAR scholars.

CARAGA







DBM Secretary Rolando Andaya leads in the improvement of municipal water system in San Isidro, Surigao del Norte; construction of farm-to-market road at Basilisa Dinagat; distribution of 50 units of computers to selected schools and of 1,200 pieces of trapals for palay drying to farmers representatives; Brigada Eskwela in selected schools; and signing of MOA for the establishment of DBM-Procurement Depot & Commissary in Surigao City.

REGION XI

DAVAO





Kabisig Davao Chairman Danny Guillen, Press Secretary Jesus Dureza, Councilor Pilar Braga, and Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCO) chair Virgilio Leyretana grace the June 12 Independence Day ceremonies in Davao City's Rizal Park.



Secretary Dureza leads in the signing of MOA between OPAPP and Mindanao Indigenous People's conference for peace development.



Charge d'Affaires Edgardo R. Manuel (right) and Consul Arvin R. De Leon (left) welcome Dr. Carlos Ruffinelli, Philippine Honorary Consul to Asuncion in front of the Philippine display at the reception area of the chancery during the noontime, June 12 vin d'honneur.

Kalayaan 2008

ARGENTINA



CDA and Mrs. Manuel with members of the embassy and their spouse under the bamboo arch with buntings during the 12 June reception.

Kalayaan 2008

ARUBA





The embassy staff with Charge d'Affaires Jose Ampeso and Consul Anthony Mandap.

Consul Anthony A.L. Mandap calling on Aruba's head of government, H.E. Prime MinisterNelson Oduber with Madam Zulay van Poppel-Marquez, vice president of the Parliament leading the guests during the 110th Philippine Independence Day event in Aruba.

Kalayaan 2008

HUNGARY BUDAPEST



Ambassador Del Rosario with guests US Ambassador April H. Foley, Indonesian Ambassador Mangasi Sihombing, and Juliusz Janusz, Papal Nuncio at the diplomatic reception.



Members of the Filipino community listen to Ambassador Alejandro D. Del Rosario's Independence Day remarks during reception.



Kalayaan 2008

AUSTRALIA CANBERRA



In his message, Ambassador De Leon said that the flag-raising ceremony commemorates and gives tribute to the dignity of the Philippine flag and the Filipino nation it represents. Referring to the theme for the 2008 celebration, "Republic Service, Tungo sa Ganap na Kalayaan at Kaunlaran", the Ambassador urged all government employees and students "to renew and reinvigorate their efforts in public service while maximizing their stay in Australia." The Ambassador also encouraged all Filipinos and friends to renew their efforts in assisting the social transformation and economic development of the Philippines.





Ambassador Linglingay F. Lacanlale leads the Filipino community in the Paggalang sa Watawat.

Kalayaan 2008

AUSTRIA VIENNA



Following brief remarks in which she shared her thoughts on the role of freedom-loving Filipinos in furthering the political and economic gains being realized by the country, Philippine Ambassador to Austria Linglingay F. Lacanlale led the leaders of the Filipino Community in singing the National Anthem and in reciting the "Panunumpâ ng Katápátan sa Watawat". The brief program concluded with the reading of the Independence Day message of Foreign Secretary Alberto G. Romulo, and the screening of the videotaped national day message of H.E. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo addressed to Filipinos around the world.





Ambassador Zenaida Tacorda-Rabago in a conversation with Archbishop Joseph Marino inside the hall of the nunciature. Looking on is First Secretary and Consul Alfredo M. Borlongan (extreme right).

Kalayaan 2008

BANGLADESH





His Grace Archbishop Joseph Marino (l) and US Ambassador James Moriarty.

The Ambassador greets Swiss Ambassador Rapold.



Ambassador Rabago and guest of honor Madam Choudhury raise a toast during the reception.



Kalayaan 2006

BELGIUM

Ambassador Cristina G. Ortega delivered her inspirational message to the community right after reading the message of H.E. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo inspired by the worldwide theme "Republic Service: Tungo sa Ganap na Kalayaan at Kaunlaran". "The historic day of June 12, 1898 was truly one proud moment for us Filipinos, because on that day, we became one nation. Over the years, we have turned into a truly global nation. We have achieved progress and development. We have opened our economy to our partners worldwide for trade and investments. And we are proud of our human resources, our real treasures – the Filipino people, who are working around the world, who are known as honest, hardworking and dedicated people.



Ambassador Ortega welcomes guests during the diplomatic reception.



Ambassador Ortega with Embassy officials and staff during the ceremony.



The Bayanihan dance that brought all the guests to their feet in a standing ovation that lasted ten minutes.





Kalayaan 2008

BRAZIL

The Philippine Embassy in Brasilia headed by Ambassador Teresita V.G. Barsana celebrated the 110th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence with a series of socio-cultural and civic activities, and ended the weeklong celebration with the observance of the 147th birth anniversary of Philippine national hero Dr. Jose P. Rizal on 19 June 2008.



Kalayaan 2008

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



Ambassador Virginia H. Benavidez leads the Filipino community in the flag-hoisting ceremony.





Ambassador Benavidez delivers her Independence Day message.







Kalayaan 2008

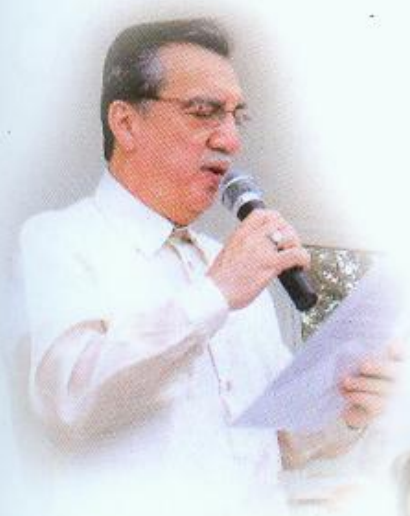
ABU DHABI

Flag raising ceremony with Ambassador Libran C. Cabactulan.



Kalayaan 2008

BAHRAIN



Ambassador Eduardo Pablo M. Maglaya reads the Independence Day message.



Philippine embassy and POLO-OWWA officers and staff.



The Ambassador joins the faculty and staff of Philippine School Bahrain.

CANADA OTTAWA



Ambassador Brillantes with Minister and Consul General Joseph Gerard B. Angeles during the flag raising ceremony.



The Ambassador reads the Independence Day message of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyol.



Ambassador Jose S. Brillantes leads the parade opening of the 2008 Independence Day picnic in Ottawa. He is joined by embassy officials and Filipino community associations at the Vincent Massey Park.

Kalayaan 2008

CANADA TORONTO



Consul General Alejandro B. Mosquera raises the Philippine flag.



Consul General Mosquera renders the message of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.



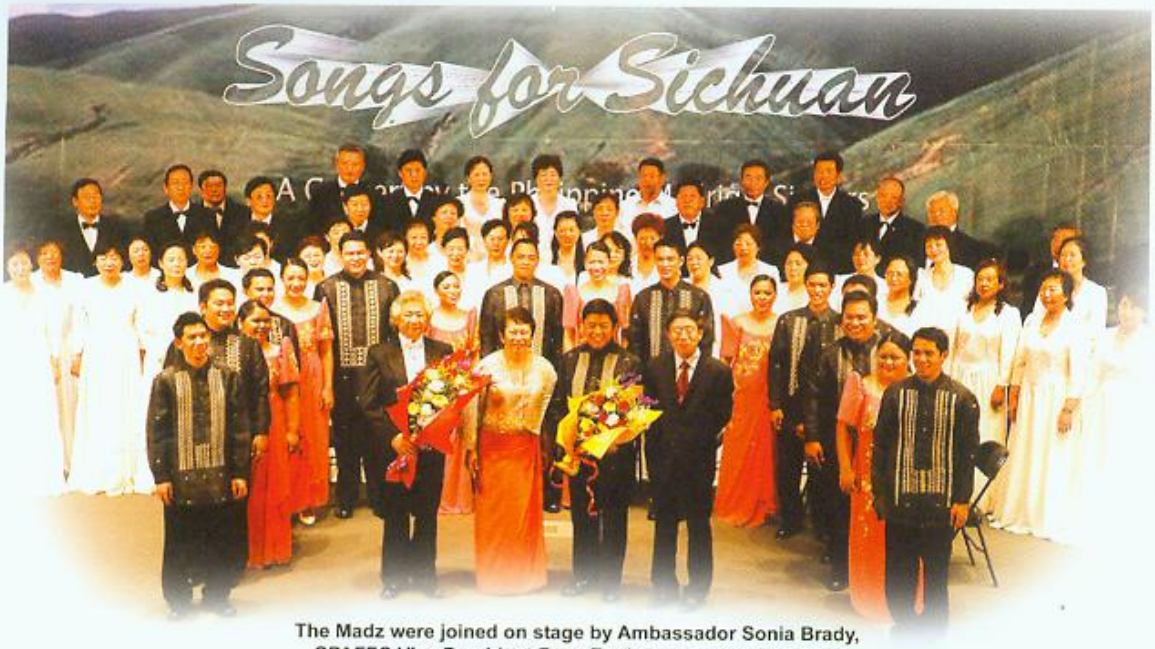
The Consul General parades with the Consular personnel and members of the Filipino-Canadian community.

Kalayaan 2008

CANADA VANCOUVER



Philippine Consul General to Vancouver Ruth Morales Prado led the celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the Declaration of Philippine Independence on 12 June at the Philippine Consulate General. In attendance were the officers and staff of the consulate, their families, several Filipino community leaders, officials from the British Columbia Ministry of Economic Development, media representatives, and other guests.



The Madz were joined on stage by Ambassador Sonia Brady, CPAFFC Vice President Feng Zuoku and members of the Voice of Friendship Choral Group.



Ambassador Sonia Cataumber Brady and Chinese Assistant Foreign Affairs Minister He Yafei during the toast to celebrate the friendship between the peoples of the Philippines and China.

Kalayaan 2008

CHINA BEIJING

In a moving tribute to the people of Sichuan in China in the aftermath of the 12 May earthquake that killed more than 60,000 people, the multi-awarded Philippine Madrigal Singers held a two-hour concert entitled "Songs for Sichuan" on 5 June at the 21st Century Theater in Beijing.

"We hope that through these gestures, we can contribute to the Chinese government's efforts to help the people of Sichuan, and reciprocate, even in a small way, the generosity that the Chinese government and people have extended to the Filipinos, when we ourselves suffered disaster after disaster in past years," Ambassador Brady stressed.

Kalayaan 2008

CHINA GUANGZHOU



Consul General Shulan O. Primavera leads officers and staff of Guangzhou PCG in the flag raising ceremony.

Kalayaan 2008

CHINA XIAMEN



The Consul General and Fujian Vice Governor Hong Jiexu toast to Kalayaan 2008 and a hundred and ten years of Philippine nationhood.



Consul General Emelinda Lee-Pineda (4th from right) poses with local government officials who came from all over Fujian province to celebrate Kalayaan 2008.



Consul General Maria Rowena Mendoza Sanchez with Shanghai Vice Mayor Tang Dengjie and other Shanghai officials together with the officers and staff of the Philippine Consulate General.



Officers and staff of the Philippine Consulate General together with some leaders of the Filipino community.

Kalayaan 2008

CHINA SHANGHAI





Kalayaan 2008

CAMBODIA





Amb. Lourdes Morales gives her Independence Day message



The Koro Filipino singing Freddie Aguilar's "Anak" during the diplomatic reception.



The Ambassador and Senior Minister and Environment Minister Mareth during the diplomatic reception.

Kalayaan 2008

CUBA HAVANA

Flag-raising ceremony led by Ambassador George B. Reyes



CHILE SANTIAGO



Philippine Ambassador to Chile Maria Consuelo Puyat-Reyes (in yellow dress) greets guests at a diplomatic reception hosted by the Philippine Embassy on 12 June 2008, Independence Day, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Santiago. To her left are: Mrs. Angela Jeria de Bachelet, representing her daughter, President Michelle Bachelet of Chile, and Monsignor Giussepe Pinto, Apostolic Nuncio and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

CZECK REPUBLIC PRAGUE



Philippine Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Amb. Carmelita Salas seated, posing with members of the Filipino community during the celebration to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the declaration of Philippine Independence in Prague on 15 June 2008.



Flag raising ceremony at the embassy grounds.



Community mass.

Kalayaan 2008

EAST TIMOR DILI



The Filipino and Friends Choir sings "Pilipinas" to the delight of the audience.



The five outstanding Filipinos in Timos-Leste with President Jose Ramos-Horta.

A flag raising ceremony was held at the Philippine Ambassador's residence in Surik Mas before the two events. In his remarks, Charge d'Affaires, a.i., Ariz Severino V. Convalecer praised the Filipino contingent for coming up with a unique way of celebrating Philippine Independence Day. He said that true independence does not only mean political emancipation but more importantly, it is the ability to empower people to improve the quality of their lives.

Kalayaan 2008

EGYPT

The 110th Anniversary of Philippine Independence in Egypt celebrations started with the Philippine Embassy's participation in the Independence Day party and crowning of the 2008 Miss Independence on 6 June 2008, organized by the Club Pinoy Civic Association. Club Pinoy is one of the largest Filipino community organizations in Egypt.



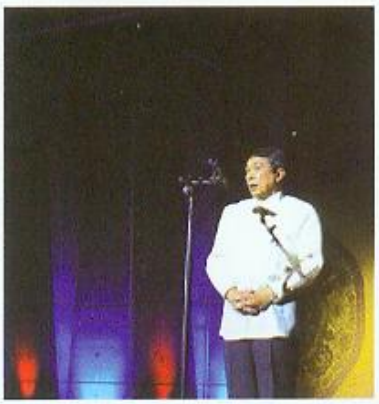
Ambassador Oscar G. Valenzuela gives his brief remarks.



Consul Charmaine Rowena C. Aviquivil gives her speech during the Independence Day party.



Ambassador Valenzuela receives the Chamberlain of Egypt President Hosni Mubarak as Consul Aviquivil and Vice Consul Musor look on.



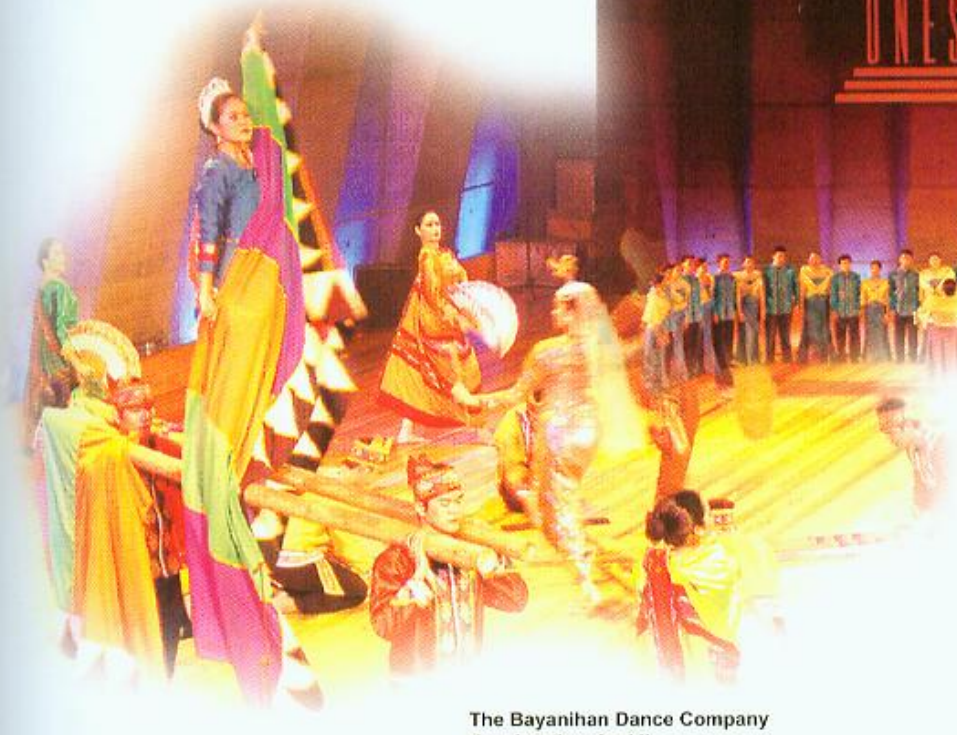
Ambassador Jose Abeto Zaide takes the stage to welcome guests



Consul Igro Bailen reads the Independence Day message of Secretary Alberto G. Romulo.



The University of the East Chorale serenade the audience.



The Bayanihan Dance Company dancing the *singkil*.

Kalayaan 2008

FRANCE PARIS

The 110th year of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence dawned in Paris with a flag ceremony at the Philippine Chancery at 4, Hameau Boulainvilliers, in the city's 16th district.

The Bayanihan Dance Company totally captivated a packed house of some 1,000 guests with a spectacular high-octane performance at UNESCO.

Kalayaan 2008

GERMANY BERLIN



Ambassador Delia Domingo Albert with officers and staff of Philippine embassy.

Team Philippines-Germany led by Embassy officials and staff led the commemoration of the 110th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence with a flag ceremony at the Philippine Embassy chancery. This was followed by the reading of the 2008 Independence Day messages of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and that of Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alberto G. Romulo.

Kalayaan 2008

KUWAIT



Ambassador Ricardo M. Endaya and Vice Consul Rea G. Oreta lead the flag raising ceremony with Filipino community leaders.



The Ambassador with Philippine embassy officials.



Signing Officer/Attache Grace A. Clavecillas leads the Bonn EO staff with Consul Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian in reciting the *Panunumpa sa Watawat.*



Consul Auxilian reads the Independence Day message.

Kalayaan 2008

GERMANY BONN



Consul Auxilian shows the text of the Declaration of the Philippine Independence in Kawit, Cavite on June 12, 1898 to Sir Toni Wollenweber, member of the Knights of Rizal-Bonn.

The Philippine Embassy Bonn Extension Office celebrated the 110th anniversary of the declaration of the Philippine Independence by holding a simple flag ceremony and putting up a small exhibit on the Philippine national heroes, evolution of the Philippine flag and the declaration of the Philippine independence in Kawit, Cavite on 12 June 1898. Highlights of the event were the singing of the Philippine national anthem and reciting of the oath of allegiance to the Philippine flag by the Bonn EO staff. These was followed by the reading of the Independence Day message of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Alberto G. Romulo, and showing of the video message from Malacañang of H.E. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines.



Flag raising ceremony with the Filipino community.

Kalayaan 2008

GERMANY HAMBURG

In his inspirational speech, Consul General Armando B. Fernandez Jr. focused on this year's theme "Iba't Ibang Wika, Sagisag ng Matatag na Bansa." He said there "may be strength in the diversity of languages as there is in the diversity of culture. He was emphatic in saying that "if we reach out to one another as we do with the other countries who are speaking other languages, interact with one another in trade and commerce, engage in matters of mutual benefit, what can go wrong? For sure, we can have one strong nation."



Consul General Armando B. Fernandez Jr. with officers and staff of the Philippine Consulate General and members of the Filipino community.



Consul General Fernandez with the Philippine Centennial Organization.





Ambassador Rigoberto Tiglao with wife welcome Secretary General Aristides Agathocles (left photo) and Greek Ambassador to the Philippines Georges-Chrysostomos Nicolaidis and wife, Alcmene (right).



Filipino youths showcase their talents as the audience watch with anticipation and excitement.

Kalayaan 2008

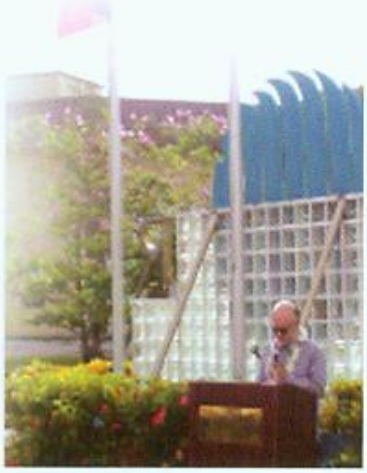
GREECE ATHENS

At the Diplomatic Reception hosted by Philippine Ambassador to Greece and Mrs. Rigoberto Tiglao, prominent members of the Greek officialdom led by Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyanni's personal representative, Ambassador Aristides Agathocles, Secretary General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, representatives of the various chambers of commerce in Greece and shipping industry attended the reception. Greek ambassador to the Philippines H.E. Georges-Chrysostomos Nicolaidis with his wife Alcmene also attended the reception.

Kalayaan 2008 GUAM AGANA



The Philippine Consulate General during the flag raising ceremony.



Consul General Bayani S. Mercado delivers his Independence Day message.



Consul General Mercado (4th from left) leads the wreath laying ceremony with officers of the Batangas and Southern Tagalog Association (BASTA) of Guam.



Acting Lt. Gov. Rory Respicio (left) with Acting Governor Tina Muna-Barnes and Philippines Consul General Bayani S. Mercado, raise their glasses in a toast during the Vin d'Honneur of the 110th anniversary of Philippine Independence.

Kalayaan 2008 KOROR PALAU



Ambassador Ramoncito Marino recognizes the contribution of Paramount Chief Reklai in the creation of the Filipino community in Koror.



The Ambassador and embassy staff with the Filipino community.



Consul General Abadilla assisted by M/Sergeant Ismael V. Ruiz of the Philippine Army as well as members of the Filipino-American veterans association during the flag raising ceremony.

Kalayaan 2008

HAWAII HONOLULU

The Filipino-American community in Hawaii marked the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence with a celebration that showcased the Filipino peoples' unique and extraordinary artistic talents in music, arts and fashion led by Philippine Consul General Ariel Y. Abadilla.



(L-R): Alex Sotelo, manager of Island Art Galleries, Lovely Orsino, Consul General Ariel Y. Abadilla, Jerryca Gasmen, Crystel Acido, Jay Cayuca, and Jeffrey Liu, owner of Island Art Galleries.



Jay Cayuca performs to the enjoyment of the Filipino-American community.





Kalayaan 2008 HONGKONG

The Pinoy Photographers Club of Hong Kong (PPC-HK), in coordination with the Philippine Consulate General Consul Gen. Alejandrino Vicente launched its second photo exhibit in Hong Kong on 5 June 2008 at the premises of the Philippine Consulate General in Admiralty, Hong Kong. "Express" showcases the collections of PPC-HK's 22 artist-photographers shot from various locations in Asia and Europe. The exhibit includes images of Hong Kong's busy streets, Asia's diverse cultural heritage and industries, solemn shots of mother nature, monuments of Europe, to cite a few.









The Philippine Consulate General hosted a cocktail reception for the consular corps and Hong Kong government officials as well as guests from partner institutions and the Filipino community at the JW Marriott Hotel. The Secretary of Finance of Hong Kong SAR, Hon. John Tsang Chun-wah, JP, was the guest of honor for the event.



Charge d'Affaires Maria Aileen M. Bugarin (seated, center) with officers and staff of Philippine embassy.

Kalayaan 2008

INDIA NEW DELHI

In line with the theme of the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence, *"Republic Service, Tungo sa Ganap na Kalayaan at Kaunlaran,"* and the Department of Foreign Affairs' belief in its mandate to deliver this service to the global Filipino overseas, the Philippine Embassy in New Delhi organized a pair of activities for the local Filipino Community to celebrate the important occasion.



Filipino community partake of the lunch buffet.



The six teams during the bowling tournament with embassy personnel.



Ambassador Vidal Erfe Querol with wife and Indonesian Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda.

Kalayaan 2008 INDONESIA JAKARTA

In his welcome address, Ambassador Vidal Erfe Querol extolled the bravery of men and women who struggled, fought and died to achieve the freedoms the Filipinos enjoy today. Also, he thanked Indonesia for its continuing support and friendship which spans almost 60 years. He said both countries are partners in promoting democracy and human rights in Southeast Asia.



Flag raising ceremony.



Embassy personnel.

Kalayaan 2008

INDONESIA MANADO



The Consul delivering her message.



Consul General Olivia V. Palala leads in the singing of the national anthem.

In her remarks, Consul General Palala said that "[this year's theme] is meant to further inspire the Filipino people, wherever they may be, to strive collectively, and with clear resolve, to reduce the incidence of poverty, to narrow the wealth gap and to improve the country's standard of living." Consul General Palala also highlighted recent bilateral activities that gave further impetus on Philippines-Indonesia relations.



Drs. Robby Mamuaja, Secretary of North Sulawesi Province.



The ceremonial toast.



The Philippine Consulate General staff dancing the *Cariñosa*.



The Filipino students of Manado International School.



Ambassador Aladin Villacorte gives his welcome remarks.



The ambassador and his wife welcome guests.

Kalayaan 2008

IRAN

In his keynote speech, Philippine Ambassador to Iran Aladin Villacorte reminded the Filipino community that the history of Philippine independence is essentially a book of life and work of ordinary Filipinos who achieved great things because they believed in themselves and in the ideals they were fighting for. He added that our forefathers have put heart and soul into building what we have today.



The traditional Filipino Muslim dance, *Maranaw*,



The officers and staff of the Philippine embassy.

Kalayaan 2008

ISRAEL

Her Excellency Petronila P. Garcia, in her remarks during the ceremony, reminded the OFWs in Israel to serve their elderly employers with utmost love and care as they do with their own family members. In this way, the Filipino community will protect their good reputation in Israel as they continue to enjoy the good working conditions in this country.



Embassy officers and staff with the Filipino community singing the national anthem.



The ambassador addresses the Filipino community.



Ambassador Garcia with Ambassador Ruth Kahanoff, Deputy Director General of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Ambassador Petronila P. Garcia with embassy staff at the diplomatic reception.

Kalayaan 2008 ITALY ROME



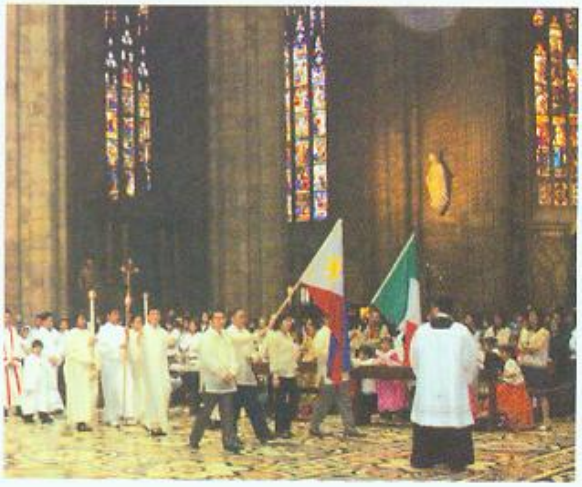


Philippine Ambassador to Italy Philippe J. Lhuillier and the officers and staff of the Philippine embassy in Rome kicked off the celebration of the 110th anniversary of Philippine Independence by joining the Filipino community in Rome in a grand celebration at the Piazza Ankara on 08 June.

Kalayaan 2008 ITALY MILAN



Consul General Pedro O. Chan with the Dean of the Corpo Consulare di Milano, Consul General Benito Andion, during the National Day reception.



The Consul General and Vice Consul Mary Luck S. Hicarte behind the flag bearers during the Holy Mass.



The performers in high spirit during the curtain call of the cultural presentation.

Kalayaan 2008

TOKYO JAPAN

The Philippine Embassy in Tokyo, led by His Excellency Ambassador Domingo L. Siazon, Jr., commemorated the 110th anniversary of the Declaration of Philippine Independence on June 12, 2008 at the Embassy Multipurpose Hall.



Ambassador Domingo L. Siazon Jr. delivers his message. He said that the Philippines can only achieve genuine progress if we begin on our own individual progress or advancement.



The administrative staff sing their rendition of *Ako ay Pilipino.*



The flag raising ceremony had to be done indoors due to the inclement weather.

Kalayaan 2008

OSAKA JAPAN

The Mayor of Osaka, Kunio Hiramatsu (2nd from right), is welcomed to the Family Day celebrations by (from left) Kyoto community leader Amelia Kohno, Consul General Maria Lourdes V. Ramiro Lopez and Vice Consul Anne Hernando.





The Consulate's special awardees for 2008. From left: Dir. Bong Bangzon, Kashiwara Jaycess past president Noriyoshi Sekiguch, Atsuko Matsuura de Vizcaldo of SINAPIS, Consul General Lopez, Osaka Sakishima Rotary Club President Shunji Taniguchi, 2006 Kaagapay Awardee Yutaka Hirata, 2006 Kabalikat Awardee Tadyoshi Kondo, and Ambassador Yamazaki.



Flag raising ceremony.



Philippine Ambassador to Jordan Julius Torres conveying President Arroyo's Independence Day message to the Filipino community.

Kalayaan 2008

JORDAN AMMAN



The Ambassador singing with embassy officials.



The Filipino community socializing and enjoying brunch



The Filipino community kids dancing the *Cariñosa.*

Kalayaan 2008

LAOS VIENTIANNE



Ambassador Elizabeth P. Buensuceso and Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr. Thonglou Sisoulith during the ceremonial toast.



The Ambassador with embassy staff and household members at the opening of the Filipino community sportsfest.

Kalayaan 2008

LEBANON

Charge d' Affaires and Consul General Gilberto G.B. Asuque and the officers and staff of the Philippine Embassy in Lebanon join the Filipino community in the celebration of the 110th Philippine Independence Day at the auditorium of the UNESCO Palace in Beirut. Almost 2,000 OFWs all over Lebanon gathered at the UNESCO Palace for the day long celebration highlighted by the reading of the message of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.





Charge d'Affaires and Consul General Gilberto G.B. Asuque (center) with officers and staff of the Philippine embassy.



The Filipino community in the celebration of the 110th Philippine Independence Day.

Kalayaan 2008

LIBYA TRIPOLI

In the midst of a fiesta-like atmosphere resplendent with *banderitas* and the *pabitin*, the Philippine Embassy in Tripoli, Libya, headed by Chargé d' Affaires, a.i. Dr. Mary Jennifer Domingo Dingal, hosted a simple yet meaningful celebration of the 110th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence on 12 June 2008 at the Chancery.



Charge d'Affaires Dr. Mary Jennifer Domingo Dingal with embassy personnel leads in the singing of the National Anthem.



CDA Dingal delivers her message.



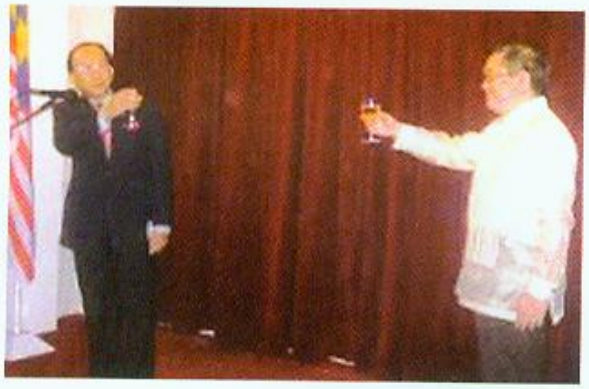
Officers and staff of the Philippine embassy.

MALAYSIA KUALA LUMPUR

The *Fiesta Filipina* at the Embassy grounds began with a program, where Ambassador Victoriano M. Lecaros welcomed members of the Filipino Community (FilCom), Malaysian guests and other foreign visitors. The *Fiesta Filipina* included booths where FilCom groups showcased Philippine food and products. Melissa C. Lecaros, wife of the Ambassador, and Anne J. Louis, First Secretary and Consul, led FilCom leaders in cutting the ribbon to open the booth-display. Thirteen booths were put up by the Filipino associations/groups.



Ambassador Victoriano M. Lecaros (inset) welcomes members of the Filipino community and other foreign guests.



The Ambassador (right) and Foreign Minister Yatim (left) offer the traditional toast.



Foreign Minister Yatim (right), assisted by Ambassador Lecaros, unveils the artworks of five Filipino artists.



Children of embassy personnel (left) performs *Itik-itik* while members of the Filipino community in Kuala Lumpur (right) performs the *Curacha*.



Ambassador Antonio M. Lagdameo with wife welcome Veterans of the Squadron of 2001 and guests during the Independence Day diplomatic reception.





The Ambassador reads the Independence Day message of Secretary Romulo as his wife looks on.

Kalayaan 2008

MEXICO

The diplomatic corps, personalities from the academic, cultural, and business sectors as well as selected members of the Filipino community attended the reception held at the Ambassador's residence on 13 June. Veteran members of the Squadron 201 who fought in the Philippines during the Second World War came to the reception in their uniform.

Kalayaan 2008

MUSCAT OMAN



Ambassador Acmad Omar reads his message.



The Ambassador leads the officers and staff of the Philippine embassy during the flag raising ceremony.



Ambassador Omar and H.E. Al Sunaidi cut the Independence Day cake.



Ambassador Omar (center) with Oman officials.



Ambassador Romeo A. Arguelles with wife (2nd and 3rd from left) and Consul General Eppo Horlings and wife (right most and second from right) are joined by Al Perez (left), Raul Sunico (center) and Becky Garcia (3rd from right).

Kalayaan 2008

NETHERLANDS



Raul Sunico serenades the audience.

The Philippine Embassy in The Hague, in cooperation with the Philippine Honorary Consul General in Amsterdam Eppo Horlings, celebrated the 110th Anniversary of the Philippine Independence at the exquisite 17th century "De Duif" church located at the historical street of Prinsengracht in the city of Amsterdam.

Featured artists for the event were the accomplished ultra-realist painter Al Perez and the renowned pianist Raul Sunico. The 300 guests, from the Dutch business circle and the Filipino-Dutch community, were treated to an elegant cultural evening of arts and music. Throughout the night, the realistic impressions of old Philippine churches by Perez and his interpretations of the Mother and Child, various saints and religious figures donned the walls of the finely adorned church.



Ambassador Arguelles shares with the Dutch-Filipino community the Independence Day message of Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo.

Kalayaan 2008 NAIROBI KENYA



Ambassador Maria Rosario Janolo (8th from left) with members of the Filipino community during the 110th Philippine Independence Day celebration.



The Ambassador with the Princess of Tanzania, embassy staff and some Kenyan guests.

Kalayaan 2008 NEW ZEALAND WELLINGTON



Ambassador Bienvenido V. Tejano delivers his Independence Day message.



The winners of the first on-the-spot essay writing and poster-making contests.



The "young once" of Wellington, well poised as they show off their *Rigodon de Honor.*

Kalayaan 2008

NIGERIA ABUJA

The Philippine Embassy in Abuja hosted the celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence with the Filipino community, members of the diplomatic corps, and special guests at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel.

During the event, a cultural presentation was shown, led by embassy officers and staff with the participation of some members of the Filipino community in Abuja, which showcased the rich cultural heritage of the country. The presentation of songs and dances touched the hearts of the Filipinos.



Charge d'Affaires Dauday A. Tago receives guests.



CDA Tago with embassy personnel and their families during the flag raising ceremony.



Cultural presentation by embassy officers and staff.



Consul General Evelyn D. Austria-Garcia with Foreign Minister Gisladottir, the Consular Team, Philippine Honorary Consul Priscilla Zanoria, and other guests at the painting exhibition.



The Consul General with Foreign Minister Gisladottir at the painting exhibition of Manuel Baldemor.

Kalayaan 2008

NORWAY

Oslo PE capped the celebration of the 110th Anniversary of Philippine Independence with a painting exhibition by Manuel D. Baldemor, the first by a Filipino artist in Norway. In attendance at the opening of the exhibition were members of the diplomatic corps, Filipino community leaders, artists and media in the Norwegian cultural scene and friends of the Philippine embassy.





Embassy officers and staff joined the Filipino community in celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Flores de Mayo Santacruzan and nine day novena in Oslo. The annual parade started in front of St. Olavs church, traversed Akersgata, Rosenkratz Gate, and Karl Johan Street -- which is the main pedestrian thoroughfare of Oslo.

Kalayaan 2008

PAKISTAN



Ambassador Jaime J. Yambao greets the ambassador of Kuwait.



The Ambassador with embassy officers.



Teenager Rumecia Butt of Filipino-Pakistani parentage performs as Mother Philippines in a Freedom Ballet while Dwight Ronan, son of the Police Attache, leads the embassy and Filipino community in singing *Bayan Ko*.

Kalayaan 2008

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

On the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the declaration of Philippine Independence, the embassy held simple but dignified celebration activities.



Ambassador Shirley Ho-Vicario reads the President's message.



Members of the Filipino community.



The embassy personnel.

QATAR DOHA

The Philippine Independence Day Organizing Committee (PINOC), which was formed to coordinate the activities of all Filipino organizations in Qatar, in coordination with the Philippine Embassy in Doha, celebrated the occasion at the Hyatt Plaza Mall with a whole-day series of fun-filled events to cater to both the young and the old.



Ambassador Isaias F. Begonia addresses guests during the diplomatic reception.



Ambassador Begonia and Justice Minister Hassan Bin Abdullah Al Ghanim cut the ceremonial cake.



The Ambassador leads embassy officers and staff in the flag raising ceremony.



Embassy personnel join the Alay Lakad.



The Ambassador with wife release balloons.







Kalayaan 2008

ROMANIA BUCHAREST

Charge d'Affaires, a.i. Ma. Teresita C. Daza led the commemoration of the 110th Philippine Independence Day celebration in Bucharest, Romania.



The Philippine embassy in Bucharest celebrated the Philippine Independence at the St. Anton de Padua church grounds with the Filipino community. The affair commenced with a bilingual mass attended by the Filcom and Romanian parishioners of Doamna Ghica. The Filcom choir sung Filipino songs during the mass.







Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexei Borodavkin (left) conveys the greetings of the Russian government to Ambassador Victor G. Garcia III and his wife. Looking on is Minister Joselito Jimeno.

Kalayaan 2008

RUSSIA

Philippine Ambassador to Russia Victor G. Garcia III and his wife, Connie, hosted a reception for the diplomatic corps, Russian dignitaries, business people, and Filipino community leaders to commemorate Philippine Independence Day at the embassy residence.



The embassy officers and staff.

Kalayaan 2008
SAIPAN

The messages of H.E. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto G. Romulo and Acting Labor and Employment Secretary Marianito D. Roque were read by Consul General Maximo, Consul Ante and Labor Representative Lavilla, respectively. One of the highlights of the ceremony was the awarding of the winners for the essay writing contest *"Ties that Bind: Exploring the Historic Connections of the United States, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of the Philippines"* which was sponsored by the NMI Council for the Humanities in coordination with the Philippine Consulate.



Consul General Wilfredo DL. Maximo and Consul Belinda M. Ante read President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's and Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto G. Romulo's messages.



The winners of the essay contest together with Consul General Maximo, Consul Ante and NMI Council for the Humanities Board of Directors.





Ambassador Ezzedin Tago and Ambassador Mohammed Ahmad El-Tayeb.

Kalayaan 2008

SAUDI ARABIA JEDDAH

The Philippine Consulate General in Jeddah led by Consul General Ezzedin Tago hosted a reception on the occasion of the 110th Anniversary on the Proclamation of Philippine Independence at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Consul General Tago gave his remarks in Arabic then in English. He cited Jeddah, the former capital of the Kingdom, as the site of the Philippine Embassy established in 1973 until the move of the diplomatic missions to Riyadh. He thanked the leadership of the Kingdom under the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdulfah bin Abdul Aziz and the Saudi people for their hospitality to the over 1 million Filipinos now working in the Kingdom.



Ambassador Tago and Ambassador Mohammed Ahmad El-Tayeb with ASEAN Consuls General..



Ambassador Villamor delivers the message of Secretary Alberto A. Romulo.



Ambassador Villamor with guest of honor, Dr. Mohammad Al-Jerewi, Deputy Governor for Security Affairs in Riyadh. Also in photo is Hassan Khalil (right) as interpreter.



Kalayaan 2008

SAUDI ARABIA RIYADH



Ambassador Villamor, Mrs. Dela Fuente, Madame Villamor, Labor Attache Dicang, Labor Attache Dela Fuente and Gina Abitona during the ribbon cutting ceremony of the food festival.





Games exhibition.



Medical volunteers at work.



Embassy personnel and the Filipino community.



Ambassador Belen A. Fule-Anota reads the Independence Day message of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Kalayaan 2008

SINGAPORE



Ceremonial toasts by Philippine Ambassador and Singapore Representative Minister of Trade Lim Hng Kiang.



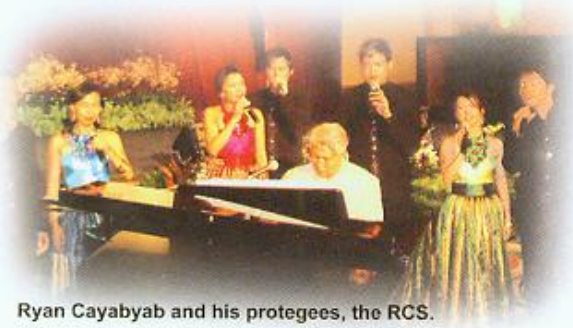
Pledge to the flag.



Guest of honor Sr. Minister of State, Education, Culture, Information and the Arts Lui Tuck Yew and Philippine Ambassador at the ribbon cutting of Glass & Brass. Also in photo are artists Ramon Orlina and Michael Cacnio.



Cutting of Independence cake by Ambassador Fule-Anota with Singapore Government Representatives Lim Hng Kiang (GOH), Cedric Foo Chee Keng, MP for West Coast GRC and Lim Biow Chuan, MP for Marine Parade GRC.



Ryan Cayabyab and his protegees, the RCS.

Kalayaan 2008

SOUTH AFRICA PRETORIA





Ambassador Virgilio A. Reyes Jr. welcomes guests to the embassy's celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence. Members of the Diplomatic Corps, South African business and government representatives and members of the Filipino community attended the event.



Chief Director Ntombizodwa Lallie of the South African Department of Foreign Affairs toasts the Ambassador at the celebration. In her speech, Chief Director Lallie hailed the strong relationship between South Africa and the Philippines. She cited the considerable contribution of Filipinos in the country towards South Africa's growth.

SOUTH KOREA SEOUL



Philippine Ambassador to Seoul Luis T. Cruz leads the 110th Philippine Independence Day celebration in Hannam-dong, yongsangu on June 12, 2008 with an awarding ceremony.



The Ambassador (fourth from right) and other envoys join for the cake cutting during RP's Independence Day celebration.



Mrs. Mindy Cruz, wife of the Ambassador receives guest during the dinner reception.





DFA Secretary Alberto G. Romulo delivers his welcome remarks.



Secretary Roser Clavell, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Catalan *Generalitat*, delivers response to DFA Secretary Alberto G. Romulo's welcome address at the Independence Day/Formal Inauguration reception. Also in picture are Philippine Ambassador to Spain Joseph Bernardo, Consul General Eduardo de Vega, and Commissioner Katy Carreras of the *Ajuntament* of Barcelona.

Kalayaan 2008

SPAIN BARCELONA

The Barcelona PCG held a reception in joint commemoration of the 110th anniversary of Philippine Independence Day together with the formal inauguration of the Post. The event was made more special by the attendance of DFA Secretary Alberto G. Romulo as guest of honor. Among the nearly 100 guests who graced the event were officials from the Barcelona city council (*Ajuntament*) and the *Generalitat* (government of the Catalan Autonomous Community), members of the consular corps in Barcelona, Spanish businessmen with business ties with the Philippines, Casa Asia representatives, and Filipino community leaders.

In his welcome address (given in fluent Spanish), Secretary Romulo referred to the historical and cultural ties linking the Filipino people and the people of Barcelona and Catalonia, including the founding of *La Solidaridad* in Barcelona in 1888, and the continuing presence of over 20,000 Filipino workers in the city. He stated that the opening of the Philippine Consulate General in Barcelona was representative of the special friendship between both nations today.



Ambassador Joseph D. Bernardo, assisted by the Filipino community leaders, cuts the ceremonial ribbon.

Kalayaan 2008

SPAIN MADRID



Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alberto G. Romulo, accompanied by Expo Zaragoza Commissioner General Emilio Ferñanez Castaño, visits the Philippine pavillion at the Expo.



The Bayanihan Dance Company opens the Teatro de la Calle at the celebration of Philippine Independence Day.



The Zamboanga delegation led by Congresswoman Isabelle Climaco and Mayor Celso Lobregat with Secretary Alberto G. Romulo, Ambassador Bernardo and Zaragoza City officials led by Mayor Alberto Belloch.



Ambassador Maria Zeneida Angara Collinson and Minister for Migration and Asylum Policy Tobias Billstrom with various leaders of the Filipino community.



Kalayaan 2008

SWEDEN STOCKHOLM

Ambassador Angara Collinson with guests of honor Minister for Migration and Asylum Polilcy Tobias Billstrom and Klas Molin, Head of the Department for Asia and the Pacific of the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.



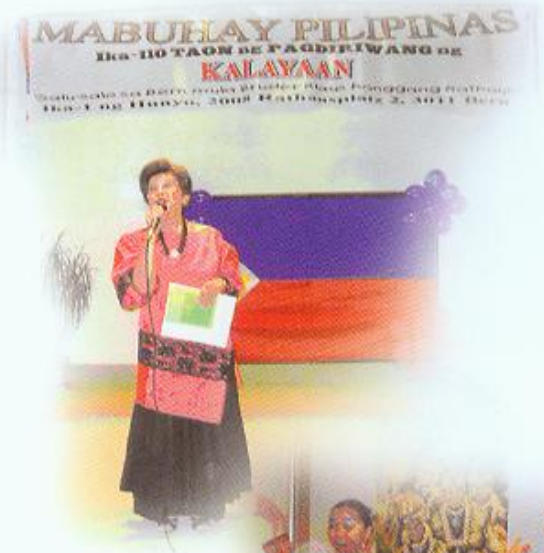
Filipino stage actress Monique Wilson sings with gusto to the audience.



Ambassador Minerva Jean A. Falcon addresses the Filipino community at the historic Rathaus (city hall).

Kalayaan 2008

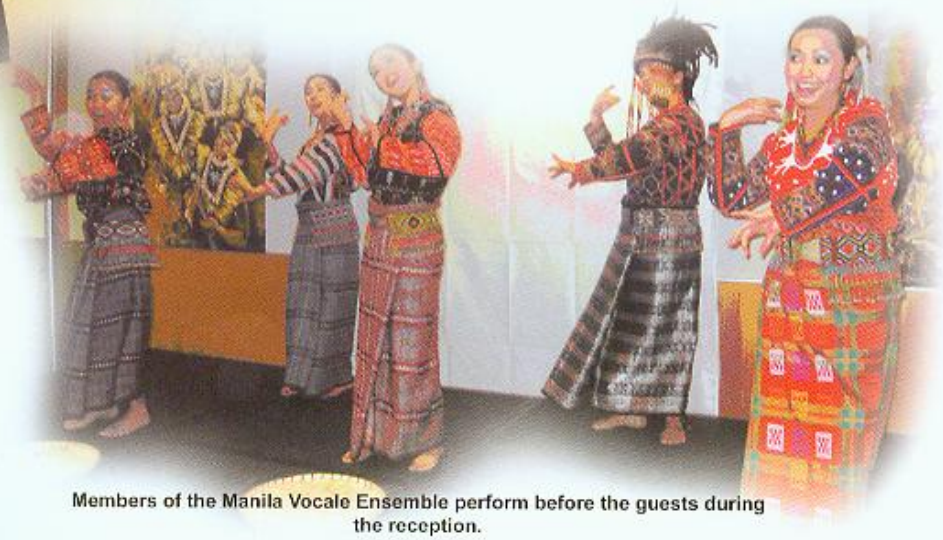
SWITZERLAND BERNE



The Ambassador gives her welcome remarks.



The Ambassador and Minister Edsel P. Barba welcome guests to the diplomatic reception.



Members of the Manila Vocale Ensemble perform before the guests during the reception.



Ambassador Erlinda F. Basilio, Ambassador Manuel AJ Teehankee (left), Director General Sergei Ordzhonikidze (third from left) and visual artist Edsel Moscos cut the ribbon to open the artist's painting exhibition.

Kalayaan 2008

SWITZERLAND GENEVA



Ambassadors Erlinda and Norberto Basilio (seated, center) are flanked by officers and staff (with their spouses) of the Philippine Permanent Mission to the UN.



Charge d'Affaires and Consul General Gilberto Asuque reads the messages of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Vice President Noli de Castro and Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto G. Romulo.

Kalayaan 2008

SYRIA DAMASCUS



Philippine Honorary Consul General in Damascus Fadi Debahy (2nd from right) and other guests join the Filipino community in celebrating the 110th anniversary of Philippine Independence.



Folk dance by Filipino community.



Ambassador Antonio V. Rodriguez delivers his message.

Kalayaan 2008
THAILAND BANGKOK



Flag raising ceremony in Bangkok.



Ambassador Rodriguez with embassy officers and staff.



Ambassador Bahnarim A. Guinomla delivers President Arroyo's Independence Day message.

Kalayaan 2008
TURKEY



The officers and staff of the Philippine embassy.



A hearty Filipino breakfast treat.



Consul General Benito V. Valeriano with some members of the Consular Corps.

Kalayaan 1995

UAE DUBAI



The Consul General, members of the Consular Corps and other guests are entertained by the staff of the Consulate.

The Consul General assists H.E. Sheikah Lubna Al Qassimi, Minister of Foreign Trade, as she cuts the Philippine Independence Day ceremonial cake while Mrs. Valeriano and other guests look on.



QUEZON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY



Ambassador Edgardo B. Espiritu reads the President's message.

Kalayaan 2008

UNITED KINGDOM



The officers of the Filipino Association with Consul Bernadette C. Fernandez and Linda Guzman, cultural officer of the Philippine embassy.

Ambassador and Mrs. Edgardo B. Espiritu led the singing of national anthem during the Independence Day celebration at the embassy Rizal Hall. Embassy officers, members of the attached services, staff and spouses joined the ambassador. Independence Day messages of the President and Secretary of Foreign Affairs were read by Ambassador Espiritu and Deputy Chief of Mission Reynaldo Catapang while Alfredo Recio Jr., SSS representative, led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. A Filipino breakfast followed after the ceremonies.



Philippine embassy personnel singing the national anthem.



Officers, staff, service attaches and spouses.



Consul General Mary Jo Bernardo Aragon leads officers and staff of the Philippine Consulate General during the flag raising ceremony.

Kalayaan 2008

USA CALIFORNIA



Consul General Aragon with Mr. Errol Santos, Hllywood Presbyterian Medical Center (HPMC) Business Development Consultant and event organizer, HPMC CEO Jeff Nelson, and HPMC Controller Michael Almanzor.





Kalayaan 2008

USA CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Consul General Cabrera receives the letter of Governor Blagojevich from Eva Zieradzki, Director of Protocol of the Office of the Governor.



Officers and staff of the consulate general, members of the consular corps, Fil-Am community leaders, and Fil-Am media watching the video of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Philippine Flag Raising at the Daley Center Plaza

Consul General Blesila C. Cabrera led the officers and staff of the consulate in the flag-raising ceremony, including the personnel from the Philippine Trade Representative's Office and the Tourism Office in Chicago. The leaders of the Filipino-American organizations assisted the Consulate's personnel in hoisting the Philippine flag while singing the Philippine national anthem.

Independence Day Reception

The reception was held in the evening at the Kalayaan Hall of the Consulate. It was attended by more than a hundred guests composed of members of the Chicago Consular Corps, community leaders, local government officials, WWII veterans and members of the Fil-Am media.

Ms. Eva Sieradzki, Director of Protocol, represented Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich and read the letter from the Governor who extended his greetings to the Fil-Am community and declared that *"Filipino-Americans are one distinct ethnic group that has made great economic and cultural contributions to the State of Illinois."*



Consul General Cecilia B. Rebong and Ambassador Davide lead the Fil-Am community in the flag raising ceremony.



Deputy Permanent Representative Leslie Gatan joins Ambassador Hilario G. Davide and wife in welcoming diplomats.



Ambassador Davide and Mrs. Virginia Davide welcome United Nations Deputy Secretary General Asha-Rose Migiro of Tanzania during a reception.

Kalayaan 2008 USA NEW YORK

The yearly Philippine Day Parade in Manhattan was held on 01 June, kicking off the celebration of the 110th Anniversary of Philippine Independence in New York. The parade's theme this year was "Likas na Karunungan, Kakayahan at Kahusayan: Tribute to Filipino Excellence." There were about 3000 participants from Filipino-American organizations in the Tri-state area. They marched, danced and sang their way through Madison Avenue from 40th to 23rd Streets in colorful costumes. They included nurses' association, teachers' associations, sports clubs, groups representing Philippine provinces, ethnic groups, church groups, cultural groups, Fil-Am young professionals, business groups, etc. The Philippine Consulate General, Philippine Mission to the UN, DOT, and the Philippine Center were in the forefront of the parade of marchers. They were led by Ambassador and Philippine Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York Hilario Davide and Consul General Rebong.



Philippine Mission to the United Nations staff with their families.



U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte and Ambassador Willy C. Gaa rendering a toast in celebration of the 110th anniversary of the declaration of Philippine independence and in recognition of the close and strong partnership between the Philippines and the United States of America.

Kalayaan 2008 USA WASHINGTON

Along with members of the diplomatic corps, other officials of the U.S. government, members of the Filipino American community, the business sector and academe, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte joined members of the Philippine embassy in celebrating Philippine Independence Day at a Vin D'Honneur hosted by Philippine Ambassador to the United States Willy C. Gaa.







(Top photo) Vice-Consul Angelito Nayan and Cultural Attache Leo Logarta displaying traditional Filipino attire during the Philippine Fair and Parade with Labor Attache Florenda Herrera. (Middle) Cultural Officer Consul Fos, Philippine Festival Committee Chairman Ernie Cordero and Charge d'Affaires, Minister Carlos Sorreta escort the Philippine Independence Day Parade Marshall, Maryland State Delegate Kris Valderrama-Lobo. (Bottom) Embassy officials, personnel and their families participating in the parade.



Ambassador Laura Q. Del Rosario with a member of the community.

Kalayaan 2008

VIETNAM HANOI

During the luncheon, Philippine Ambassador to Vietnam Laura Q. Del Rosario took the opportunity to encourage the assembled community members to form two groups — a Philippine-Vietnam Friendship Association and a Philippine Business Chamber, with chapters in the major cities of Vietnam — in keeping with the laws of the host country, so that they may be able to establish linkages with other friendship associations and business chambers already existing in Vietnam.



Kalayaan 2008

USA SAN FRANCISCO



Consul General Marciano A. Paynor Jr. and Filipino veterans during the breakfast reception. (Inset) Delivering the welcome remarks honoring the special guests.



San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and Consul General Paynor with Filipino community leaders and consulate officers raising the Philippine flag at the City Hall balcony.



Independence Day Reception at the War Memorial Building. (Top left, clockwise) General Paynor receives guests at the Green Room; the California National Guards present colors; dance performance by Likha Pilipino Folk Ensemble; and Consul General Paynor and guests during the evening reception.

Kalayaan 2008

YANGON MYANMAR



Ambassador Noel C. Cabrera with embassy staff and members of the Philippine Humanitarian Mission sent by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in the aftermath of cyclone Nargis. The team was the special guest in celebrating the Independence Day.

Kalayaan 2008

REPUBLIC SERVICE

TUNGO SA GANAP NA KALAYAAN AT KAUNLARAN

110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

	Activities	Date/Time/Venue/ Implementing Agency
1.	**Flag and Anthem Advocacy** **Campaign on the Flag and Heraldic Code RA. 8491** (This will foster continuing respect for the flag and the anthem; deputize DepEd officials, teachers, and employees as Flag Advocates to strictly enforce the Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines [RA 8491]; monitor and report the proper display of the Philippine Flag and singing of the National Anthem; and ensure that the Flag Ceremony be accorded with respect and reverence)	April 16-19, 2008 (concluded) Banaue, Ifugao April 22-25, 2008 (concluded) Banaue, Ifugao June 25-28, 2008 RELC, Davao City R XI, XII, ARMM July 9-12, 2008 Cagayan de Oro, R IX, X, CARAGA July 16-19, 2008 Lahug, Cebu City, R VI, VII, VIII *DepEd (Lead Agency),* *PIA, NHI, MMDA, DILG*
2.	**Display of flags and tarpaulins along major thoroughfares**	May 15-June 30, 2008 *DPWH (Lead Agency)* *MMDA*
3.	**Peripheral Activities** Display of flags in all government offices/agencies/GOCCs/GFIs including SUCs, schools/universities with flag ceremony ***"Watawat Ko, Iwawagayway Ko!"*** (A flag in every home, office, major thoroughfares and Philippine embassies abroad)	May 15, 2008 Every Monday hereon All govt. buildings, schools/ universities, parks, LGUs *CSC, PIA, NHI, DepEd* May 15-June 30, 2008 *DILG (Lead Agency)* *City of Manila*
4.	**Imus Wagayway Festival 2008** (A five-day festival that culminates with a jovial celebration that dignifies our country's history specially the Philippine Flag as a national symbol of our freedom and independence)	May 24-28, 2008 Imus, Cavite *Provincial Government of Cavite and* *Municipal Government of Imus*
5.	**Launching of National Flag Advocacy/Awareness** Pambansang Araw ng Watawat ***"Igalang ang Ating Watawat: Sa Isip, sa Salita at sa Gawa"***	May 26, 2008 In front of the Quezon City Hall *PIA, NHI, DepEd, DENR, CSC* *All NGAs, GOCCs, SUCs*

6.	DBP's Independence Day concerts and exhibits showcasing traditional and ethnic Filipiniana costumes	May 26-June 30, 2008 DBP head office, Makati City *DBP (lead agency)*
	a) ***"Watawat ng Pilipinas, Sagisag ng Kasarinlan"*** (Showcase of the Evolution of Philippine Flags; display of flags will include vignettes of Philippine History)	June 6 (morning)
	b) ***"Tradisyon"*** (Araw ng pagpapahalaga sa mga kasuotang Pilipino; employees will wear the traditional Filipino attire and costumes)	
	c) ***"Ikaw, Ako . . . Alagad ng Pagbabago: DBP Independence Day Concert"*** Featuring: DBP Artists and Special Celebrity Artists	June 6, 2008 (afternoon) Bulwagan ng Diwang Pilipino Free Admission
7.	**"Araw ng Watawat ng Pilipinas"** **(Philippine National Flag Day)**	May 28, 2008, 7:00 a.m. Battle of Alapan Marker Site Imus, Cavite *NHI, LGUs* *Municipality of Imus* *Province of Cavite, NOC*
	- Commemorative Rites (Sec. Jesli Lapus)	
	- Installation of Flag Marker (Senate Pres. Manuel Villar - Senate of the Phils.) (Chief Justice Reynato Puno - Supreme Court of the Philippines)	May 28, 2008, 9:00 a.m. Supreme Court, Manila May 28, 2008, 2:00 p.m. Senate of the Phils. Pasay City *NHI, Senate, Supreme Court, NOC*
	- Flag Disposal Ceremony	May 28, 2008, 4:00 p.m. DepEd Grounds Main, Pasig City *DepEd, NOC*
	- Proper Disposal of Worn-Out Flags	June 27, 2008, 4:00 p.m. PNU, Ermita, Manila *Boy Scouts of the Phils.*
8.	**Musikalayaan** National Flag Day Concert	May 28, 2008, 6:00 p.m. Rizal Park grounds or Open Air Auditorium *AFP (lead agency)* *NPDC*
9.	**"Agraryo" Trade Fair**	June 4-8, 2008 SM Mega Mall, Pasig City (but will also be at the Sentro K3 from June 10-12, 2008) *DAR& Philippine Fruits and Vegetables Industries, Inc. (lead agencies)*
10.	**Paco Park Presents** ***Handog*** Featuring: Lester Demetillo, guitar Tony Maigue, flute Fiona Turalde, soprano	June 6, 2008, 6:00 p.m. June 6, 6:00 p.m. Paco Park, Paco, Manila *NPDC (lead agency)*
	Musikang Bayan A special presentation of Concert at the Park (People's Music) in an acoustic band formed in 2002	June 8, 2008, 5:00 p.m. Rizal Park Open Air Auditorium
	Kwerdas at Tinig Featuring: Thea Perez, soprano Alvin Salenga, guitar Leo Nebreja, guitar	June 13, 2008, 6:00 p.m. Paco Park, San Marcelino Manila
11.	**4th Pambansang Gawad sa Ulirang Kabataan** (will recognize 51 (3 per region) outstanding students in their achievements and contributions in their school community)	June 8-12, 2008 *DepEd (lead agency)*
	Announcement and Awarding of the five recipients of the ***Gawad sa Ulirang Kabataan***	June 12, 2008 Sentro K3

12. **Sinekalayaan**
(Film showing of selected local produced movies)

Lapu-Lapu (Directed by William Mayo) Starring: Lito Lapid and Joyce Jimenez	June 8, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Open Air Auditorium Rizal Park, Manila
Tirad Pass (Directed by Carlo J. Caparas) Starring: Romnick Sarmenta, Joel Torre	June 9, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Open Air Auditorium
Memories of a Forgotten War (A creative documentary on Phil-American War)	June 10, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Open Air Auditorium
Panaghoy sa Suba (Directed by Cesar Montano) Starring: Cesar Montano, Juliana Palermo	June 11, 2008, 9:00 p.m. Open Air Auditorium
Dekada 70 (Directed by Chito Roño) Starring: Vilma Santos, Christopher de Leon	June 12, 2008, 7:00 p.m. Open Air Auditorium

13. **Sentro K3 (Kaisahan, Kagalingan at Kalayaan ng Bayan)**
(Exhibits, Sales, Fairs and Government Services)
Sentro K3 is an exciting venue where interesting activities and programs are held on June 10-12, 2008. A place where there are beautiful and artistic exhibits of government agencies continuing programs that will offer departmental services to people, seminars/ demonstrations, job fairs, sports activities, medical assistance, tourism shows, historical/cultural tours, nightly cultural shows and modern rock jams – all designed to make every Filipino fully realize the ***Kagalingan, Kaisahan at Kalayaan ng Bayan!***

NCCA and NPDC (lead agencies)
June 10-12, 2008
Plaza San Lorenzo Ruiz, Rizal Park, Manila
Sentro K3
DOT (lead agency)
DTI, DOLE, DA and other national agencies

A. Opening Program of Sentro K3	June 09, 2008, 4:00 p.m. *DOT (lead agency) NHI, NPDC, NOC*
B. Patriotic Tour 2008 sa Luneta **"Walking Tour in the Park"** (A guided tour in selected historical-cultural places in Luneta and nearby sites)	June 10-12, 2008 *DOT (lead agency)* *NPDC, DepEd*
C. Kalayaan Book Sale	June 10-12, 2008 *NHI (lead agency)*
D. I. Agri-Aqua Fair and Exhibit **II. Techno-Demo on Food Processing**	June 10-12, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. *DA (Lead Agency)*
- meat processing	June 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 nn
- fish processing	June 10, 1:30 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.
- fruit processing	June 10, 3:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.
- buffalo dairy products	June 11, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
- coconut products	June 11, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 nn
- rice by-products	June 11, 1:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.
	June 10-12, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
III. Rolling Stores **(Tindahan ni Gloria)** - NFA Rice	NFA
IV. Distribution of free agriculture information materials, vegetables and seedlings	June 10-12, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
E. Cultural shows at the Sentro K3 I. Shirley Halili Cruz School of Ballet and the Musikitos Noel Cabangon and Bayang Barrios	June 10-12, 2008
II. Douglas Nierras Powerdance/ Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation, Inc., ***"Sa Kislap ng mga Tala"***, Buhay at Sining ni Dr. Francisco Santiago	June 10-12, 6:00 p.m. *NCCA*

III. The Angelos, Pillow Case
(Music of the 60s and 70s)
Komedya ng Don Galo
Front Act - Malaya Band

F. Cultural Care Giving Workshops
- Rondalla - Music - Visual Arts
- Chorale - Theatre - Amis Sport
- Kumintang Playing - Folk Dancing
- Songs and instrument playing for the disabled
- Papier Mache, mask making, beadworks

June 10-12, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
NCCA

G. Emergency Operation Philippines-Assistance to Conflict Affected Mindanao (EMOP-ACAM)
Project's photo exhibit and showcase of food for training products (weaving mats, and other handicrafts)

June 10-12,
7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. daily
DSWD

PMB-DSWD
Selling of products - self employment

June 10-12, 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
PMB-DSWD

H. Halal Technical and Advocacy
Certificate of Tribal Membership Assistance
Cultural Presentation Night Fashion Show

June 10-12, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. daily
Office of Muslim Affairs (OMA)

I. Report Mo Kay Manong Pulis/Complaint and Referral Action Center
PNP Recruitment Program
PNPA Cadetship Program
Photo Display
Information Dissemination
Audio-Visual Presentation
(Evolution of the PNP)

June 10-12, 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
PNP

J. Activities of different government agencies

1. **DPWH** - Distribute DPWH's mandate, functions, offices, programs and projects in the *komiks* form – emphasis on the President's Priority Agenda for Infrastructure. Interactive presentation of the accomplishments of the Department and Flag distribution.
   - Photographic exhibition ("The Way We Were") dedicated to the evolution of the DPWH.
   - Promote the "DPWH Text 2920"
   - Information campaign on the MDGs program
   - Groundbreak various farm-to-market roads in support of government's food production during the Independence Day and DPWH projects such as the upgrading of the Lake Lanao Circumferential Road, etc.
   - "Kalsada ay Mahalin, Atin pong Linisin at Ayusin"

June 10-12
DPWH

2. **DAR** - Public Service
   - Photo galleries (20 years of **CARP**)
   - Selling of agrarian products
   - Talakayan
   - Giving away of agrarian products
   - Promoting of agrarian reform gift packages

June 10-12
DAR

DAR-Philfruits
- Selling of agri products and handicrafts from CARP beneficiaries, photo exhibits, distribution of information materials on agrarian program, setting up of "Talakayan booth" to discuss programs on land reform, giving of 1,000 packages (worth P200 each) to lucky participants.

June 10-12
DAR Philfruits

3. **NSO** - 901 Offline processing of requests for certified true copies of civil registry documents (birth, death, marriage and certificate of no marriage)
   - E-census application
   - Conduct of information, education campaign on civil registration products/services

June 10-12
NSO

4. **DOLE** - Mega Jobs Fair (June 12 only), GMA job kiosk, pre-employment services with NBI, NSO, SSS, Philhealth & Pag-Ibig, livelihood seminars, replication of May 1 jobs fair in different regions.	June 10-12 *DOLE*
5. **SSS** - Information center and photo exhibit - Attending to queries on SSS benefits and privileges - Distribution of information materials	June 10-12 *SSS*
6. **DTI (OTOP)** - Selling of OTOP products at discounted prices	June 10-12 *DTI (OTOP)*
7. **MMDA** - Complaints and actions; jobs fair	June 10-12 *MMDA*
8. **DOH** - Botika ng Barangay, alternative health care, herbal medicine, first aide and CPR demonstrations and lectures, free therapeutic massage, standby ambulance, demonstration on how to prepare *lagundi* syrup, etc., putting up info-desk and conduct games with prizes. - PITC (*Botika ng Bayan*)	June 10-12 *DOH*
9. **LTO** - Application and renewal of driver's license, e-patrol	June 10-12 *LTO*
10. **HUDCC** - Housing fair/ housing assistance and loans	June 10-12 *HUDCC*
11. **DepEd** - Technical/vocational training, alternative learning, deworming of school children (with DOH) **DOST** - Technology transfer	June 10-12 *DepEd*
12.**NYC** - Application forms, distribution of reading materials, flyers	June 10-12 *NYC*
13.**DILG** - Public assistance, Patrol 117, information dissemination, complaint and query and referral	June 10-12 *DILG*
14.**DFA** - Information dissemination **DOJ** - Free legal services	June 10-12 *DFA, DOJ*
15.**DENR** - Distribution of seedlings, emission testing, information materials on resources management and conservation	June 10-12 *DENR*
16. **DOE** - Lectures on energy conservation and safety measures, discounted rates of CFL lights	June 10-12 *DOE*
17.**DOT** - Tourism/livelihood programs, jobs fair and investment promotions	June 10-12 *DOT*
18.**CICT/NCC** - Provision of free internet access services for the public from June 10-12 with PLDT. Awarding of two Nettop PCs on June 12, conduct games with prizes and giveaways.	June 10-12 *CITC/NCC*
19.**Department of Finance** - Services of BIR, CDA, LBP, NTRC, SEC, SSS,Philexim & PCSO	June 10-12 *DOF*
20.**AFP static display**	June 10-12 *AFP*
21.**Philippine National Red Cross** Blood typing, blood letting, lectures on disaster preparedness, etc.	June 10-12 *PNRC*
22.***Parada ng Pag-anyaya***	June 11, 7:00 a.m. Metro Manila *Association of Volunteer Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters of the Phils., Inc. Hotline:16016 (lead agency), DILG*

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BOTIKA NG BAYAN

23.Dalawang Bayani (First prize winner of the prestigious Carlos Palanca Awards written by Amelia Lapeña Bonifacio during the celebration of the Philippine Centennial). The story is about the parallel lives of national heroes Dr. Jose Rizal and Andres Bonifacio.	June 11, 6:30 p.m. Open Air Auditorium, Rizal Park, Manila *NPDC (lead agency), DILG*
24.Martyrdom of Dr. Jose Rizal A Light and Sound Presentation (Guided Tour)	June 11-15, 2008 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. - Guided Tour 6:30-7:00 p.m. Light & Sound Presentation (Tagalog Version) Execution Site, Rizal Park, Manila Open to the public on a first come first serve basis *NPDC & PAGCOR (lead agencies)*
25.PHA Colloquium "The Role of Bulacan in the Struggle for Philippine Independence"	June 11, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Casa Real Shrine Malolos, Bulacan *PHA, NHI (lead agencies)*
26.CCP's "Windows of Paradise" Cultural Presentation	June 11, 2008 CCP Manila *DOT (lead agency)*
27.Independence Day Activities (Manila) - Flag-Raising & Wreath-Laying Rites - Independence Day Message of the President - Unveiling of the Philippine Flag Marker (Rizal Park, Manila)	June 12, 7:00 a.m. Simultaneous Flag-Raising & Wreath-Laying Rites
28.Reception (Cocktail reception to be hosted by the President for the Diplomatic Corps)	June 12, 6:00 p.m. Malacañang Palace, Manila *OP (lead agency)* *PMS*
29.PMC Drum & Bugle Team Exhibition	June 12, 1:00 p.m. Sentro K3 Rizal Park, Manila *MMDA (lead agency)* *AFP*
30.PMA Silent Drill Exhibition	June 12, 2:00 p.m. Quirino Grandstand Rizal Park, Manila *AFP (lead agency)* *PMA*
31.*"Ilaw at Kulay ng Kalayaan"* **(Special Fireworks Display)**	June 12, 6:00 p.m. *DOT (lead agency)* *PNP*
32.Simultaneous blowing of fog horns, church bells, fire trucks, sirens, etc.	June 12, 7:00 a.m. *DILG (lead agency)* *Philippine Coast Guard*
33.LRT & MRT free rides **PLDT, Smart & Globe services**	June 12, 7:00-9:00 a.m.; 5:00-7:00 p.m. (free rides) *DOTC (lead agency)* June 10-12
34.Replication of Kalayaan 2008 activities nationwide	June 12, 2008 *DILG (lead agency)* *CSC Representative*
35.Replication of Kalayaan 2008 activities abroad	May 28-June 30, 2008 *DFA (lead agency)*
36.Media promotion and events coverage	*PIA (lead agency)* *OPS-RTVM, NBN-4, RPN-9, MARO, IBC-13, BBS-Radyo ng Bayan, PNA, BCS, KBP, and Private Media*
37.Printing of Kalayaan 2008 Souvenir Program	August-December 2008 *PIA (lead agency)* *NHI, DepEd*

Kalayaan 2008

109th Anniversary of Proclamation of Philippine Independence
June 12, 2007

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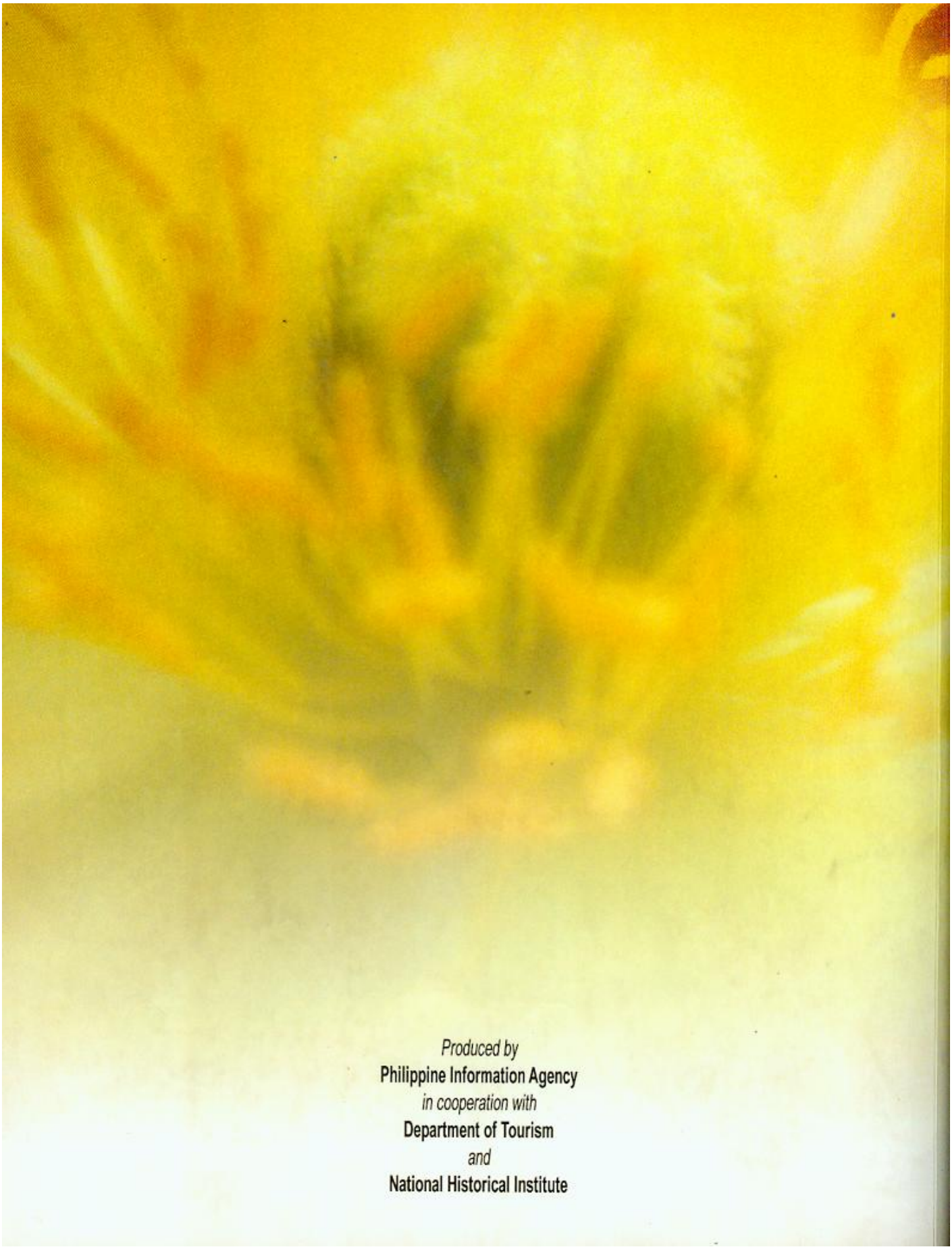

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