



AGRARIAN REFORM UNDER MARCOS



He was elected President of the Philippines in 1965 and was reelected in 1969. On September 21, 1972, Marcos imposed martial law and he stayed in power until 1986, after the historic four-day " People Power " revolution at EDSA. Marcos went on exile in Hawaii, where he died on September 28, 1989. He left behind his wife, Imelda and their three children: Maria Imelda Josefa Trinidad (Imee), Ferdinand Jr. (Bongbong), and Irene Victoria. Thus far, he is the last Senate President to become President of the Philippines.

On September 10, 1971, President Ferdinand E. Marcos signed the Code of Agrarian Reform of the Philippines into law which established the Department of Agrarian Reform, effectively replacing the Land Authority.



President Ferdinand E. Marcos (1965-1986)

Proclamation No. 1081 on September 21, 1972 ushered the Period of the New Society. Five days after the proclamation of Martial Law, the entire country was proclaimed a land reform area and simultaneously the Agrarian Reform Program was decreed.

President Marcos enacted the following laws:

Republic Act No. 6389, (Code of Agrarian Reform) and RA No. 6390 of 1971 -- Created the Department of Agrarian Reform and the Agrarian Reform Special Account Fund. It strengthen the position of farmers and expanded the scope of agrarian reform.

Presidential Decree No. 2, September 26, 1972 -- Declared the country under land reform program. It enjoined all agencies and offices of the government to extend full cooperation and assistance to the DAR. It also activated the Agrarian Reform Coordinating Council.

Presidential Decree No. 27, October 21, 1972 -- Restricted land reform scope to tenanted rice and corn lands and set the retention limit at 7 hectares.

This Act shall be known as the Code of Agrarian Reforms of the Philippines."

"Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State:

"(1) To establish cooperative-cultivatorship among those who live and work on the land as tillers, owner-cultivatorship and the economic family-size farm as the basis of Philippine agriculture and, as a consequence, divert landlord capital in agriculture to industrial development;

"(2) To achieve a dignified existence for the small farmers free from pernicious institutional restraints and practices;

"(3) To create a truly viable social and economic structure in agriculture conducive to greater productivity and higher farm income through a cooperative system of production, processing, marketing, distribution, credit and services;

"(4) To apply all labor laws equally and without discrimination to both industrial and agricultural wage earners;

"(5) To provide a more vigorous and systematic land resettlement program and public land distribution;

"(6) To make the small farmers more independent, self-reliant and responsible citizens, and a source of genuine strength in our democratic society;

"(7) To give first priority to measures for the adequate and timely financing of the Agrarian Reform Program pursuant to House Joint Resolution Numbered Two, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Social Justice and Economic Freedom; existing laws; executive and administrative orders; and rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding;

"(8) To involve local governments in the implementation of the Agrarian Reform Program; and

"(9) To evolve a system of land use and classification."

**REPUBLIC ACT No.
6389**

**AN ACT AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT
NUMBERED THIRTY-
EIGHT HUNDRED AND
FORTY-FOUR, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE
AGRICULTURAL LAND
REFORM CODE, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

- **Section 1. *Purpose.*** - It is hereby declared to be the purpose of this Act to accelerate the attainment of the objectives set forth in Republic Act Numbered Three thousand eight hundred and forty-four, otherwise known as the Agricultural Land Reform Code, as amended, by providing an immediate source of funds to finance the Agrarian Reform Program of the government, transferring certain assets of the National Government to augment the capital base of the Land Bank, involving the active participation of rural banks in a program of supervised credit by creating an Agricultural Guarantee Fund, providing counterpart funds for existing and new rural banks and prescribing certain requirements and conditions to stimulate the continuous establishment of cooperatives among those who actually till and work upon the land.
- **Section 2. *Creation of Agrarian Reform Special Account in the General Fund.*** - To carry out the purpose of this Act, there is hereby created in the General Fund an Agrarian Reform Special Account, hereinafter referred to as the Account, which shall be used exclusively to finance the Agrarian Reform Program of the government.
- **Section 3. *Financial Source of the Account.*** - The Account shall be constituted out of a portion of the proceeds of the stabilization tax collected under Republic Act Numbered Six thousand one hundred twenty-five, as amended in Section four of this Act.

Republic Act No. 6390

An act to accelerate the implementation of the agrarian reform program by creating an agrarian reform special account in the general fund, providing the necessary funds therefor, and for other purposes

- WHEREAS, there is pressing need to accelerate the Agrarian Reform Program of the Government for the early attainment of the objectives set forth in Republic Act No. 3844, as amended;
- WHEREAS, among such objectives is to achieve dignified existence for the small farmers free from the pernicious institutional restraints and practices which have not only retarded the agricultural development of the country but have also produced widespread discontent and unrest among our farmers, one of the causes of the existing national emergency; and
- WHEREAS, it is believed that the lasting objectives of land reform may be sooner realized if the whole country is declared a land reform area;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the constitution as Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and pursuant to Proclamation No. 1081 dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1, dated September 22, 1972, as amended, whereby I have assumed direction of the operation of the entire Government, do hereby proclaim the whole country, as land reform area.
- All agencies and offices of the Government are enjoined to extend full cooperation and assistance to the Department of Agrarian Reform to insure the successful prosecution of the Agrarian Reform Program.
- The Agrarian Reform Coordinating Council created under Executive Order No. 347, series of 1971, is hereby directed to convene immediately to exercise its functions.
- The Secretary of Agrarian Reform shall take the necessary steps for the prompt and effective implementation of this decree.
- Done in the City of Manila, this 26th day of September, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-two.
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**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE
No. 2 September 26,
1972**

**PROCLAIMING THE
ENTIRE COUNTRY AS A
LAND REFORM AREA**

- This shall apply to tenant farmers of private agricultural lands primarily devoted to rice and corn under a system of sharecrop or lease-tenancy, whether classified as landed estate or not;
- The tenant farmer, whether in land classified as landed estate or not, shall be deemed owner of a portion constituting a family-size farm of five (5) hectares if not irrigated and three (3) hectares if irrigated;
- In all cases, the landowner may retain an area of not more than seven (7) hectares if such landowner is cultivating such area or will now cultivate it;
- For the purpose of determining the cost of the land to be transferred to the tenant-farmer pursuant to this Decree, the value of the land shall be equivalent to two and one-half (2 1/2) times the average harvest of three normal crop years immediately preceding the promulgation of this Decree;
- The total cost of the land, including interest at the rate of six (6) per centum per annum, shall be paid by the tenant in fifteen (15) years of fifteen (15) equal annual amortizations;

**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE
No. 27 October 21,
1972**

**DECREEING THE
EMANCIPATION OF
TENANTS FROM THE
BONDAGE OF THE
SOIL, TRANSFERRING
TO THEM THE
OWNERSHIP OF THE
LAND THEY TILL AND
PROVIDING THE
INSTRUMENTS AND
MECHANISM THEREFOR**









