

**Presidential Communications Operations Office**

**Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF**  
**PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**  
**DURING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY'S (PNPA)**  
**40<sup>TH</sup> COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES FOR "SANSIKLAB" CLASS OF 2019**

[Delivered at Campos Grandstand, Camp General Mariano M. Castañeda, PNPA Silang Cavite  
| 22 March 2019]

Kindly sit down. Thank you.

Troop commander, could you give the tikas pahinga, if you are allowed to do that.

Vice President Maria Leonor Leni Robredo, did I pronounce your name correctly ma'am? Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año and other members of the Cabinet; Dr. Ricardo de Leon, President, Philippine Public Safety College; Police Chief Superintendent Jose Chiquito Malayo, Director, Philippine National Police Academy; officers, enlisted personnel, and civilian employees of the Philippine National Police Academy; cadet corps, Philippine National Police Academy led by "Sansiklab" Class of 2019; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen.

It is with great honor and pleasure that I join you today as we celebrate the excellence and the perseverance of 201 cadets whose acquired academic knowledge and leadership skills from the Academy are truly hard-earned and worthy of admiration.

It is also auspicious that we are holding this occasion on the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of General Emilio Aguinaldo --- the first President of the Philippines --- here in the province of Cavite, his birthplace. May his gallantry, sacrifice and service inspire our graduates and the rest of the nation as we strive to build a better nation.

I congratulate the "Sansiklab" Class of 2019 for successfully earning their Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Safety. That you have to overcome the challenges within the four corners of the [PNPA] is enough proof that you are bound to be our country's future leaders.

Just keep in mind that your commencement exercise is just the beginning of a greater responsibility ahead of you as you choose the branch of service.

As you leave the halls of the Academy, bring with you the principles of integrity and loyalty as well as the values of patriotism and compassion that your alma mater has instilled in you. These will serve as your guideposts as you perform your duty to our people and nation.

I enjoin our fresh graduates to support and contribute to the administration's fight against illegal drugs, terrorism and corruption. Now, more than ever, the Philippines needs optimistic

and brave men and women like you who have the qualities to be effective and efficient public servant.

Rest assured that the national government will continue to support the Philippine National Police, the Bureau of Fire Protection, and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology through programs that would improve your capacity, to uplift your morale, and ensure the well-being of your families.

On **the** ongoing modernization program, it is important --- a tragedy --- or a tra --- strategy rather. My eyes is becoming brighter as I grow old --- especially in this period of real and lasting **[change]**.

I trust that, with rigid training you received from the Academy, you are now ready to face all the challenges that may come your way as you heed the call of duty.

May the success story of your batchmate, Cadet First Class Jervis Allen Ramos, be an inspiration to all of you. May it always remind you that amidst all the [adversities] and obstacles of life, nothing is impossible as long as you keep your eye on your goals.

Your goal must now be to serve and protect our people and country to the best of your ability. I therefore challenge your class, the “Sansiklab” Class of 2019 to be the greatest version of yourselves.

Excel in your chosen pursuits, lend your abilities to all our communities, and stand by your principles at all costs. Never be deceived by power nor by fame. What is important is that you honor, for it is your badge towards genuine success.

Again, congratulations on your graduation and I look forward to working with you as we build a safer, more peaceful and more progressive nation for all Filipinos.

Mabuhay ang PNPA. Mabuhay ang “Sansiklab” Class of 2019. At mabuhay ang Pilipino. *[applause]*

**--- END ---**