

Presidential Communications Office

Presidential News Desk

SPEECH
OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE MASS OATH TAKING OF NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICIALS

[Delivered at Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace | 17 April 2018]

I'm late because just before 3 o'clock they submitted another copy of the endo.

So I begged to --- that I'd be late for about ---kasi nagmamadalian eh. I have sabi ko, 30 minutes lang, basahin ko lang.

I just came from the awarding of the Mamasapano, mga valor. I made them all heroes and I have in front of me another set of heroes. I hope. Para someday I can build a monument of you in your towns.

Ikaw Noy? Si... Brod ko 'yan, classmate ko. Raise your right hands and repeat after me.

[President Duterte administers the mass oath taking]

The Presidential Adviser for Political Affairs Francis Tolentino; our newly appointed government officials; mga kasamahan ko sa gobyerno; mga kababayan.

I will read the prepared speech but allow me a few minutes more to say my piece.

It is my pleasure to stand among some of the most dedicated and passionate civil servants of our country today. Your presence here is a testament to this administration's obligation to champion integrity, accountability and transparency in our institutions.

Let me express my sincerest gratitude to our newly appointed officials in government. I personally thank and congratulate you for taking on the exciting challenges of public service at this crucial moment of our nation's history.

The Philippines has been beset by challenges, but what makes our country incredible is its capacity to overcome these and emerge stronger than before.

Let us take advantage of this asset as we engage ourselves in [actualizing our] task to serve our country.

As we pledge ourselves to the flag, may we all be reminded that we are called to embody the highest standards of inclusiveness, openness and impartiality in our respective offices.

Remember, you are pledging your commitment to the ethical and honorable behavior as government officials. You are committing to do something that is larger than yourselves.

Therefore, it is important that you remain steadfast in finding better ways to serve the people to the best of your abilities. Let us therefore motivate all of you and to all our citizens and contribute to sustainable development and lasting peace.

I assure you that you have my full support [and] confidence in advancing our nation's common good as you embark on your own journey. Resist any temptation that will taint your honor and reputation as public servants.

May this occasion renew our dedication in achieving a truly prosperous and more robust society. I ask all of you to continue demonstrating solidarity and active participation of our shared task of building an active participation in our nation's task.

Maraming salamat po sa inyo. [applause]

Now, for my --- [applause]

Ah, ang sinulat mo 'yan diyan sa opisina. You know, I'm very sad to inform you that as of last week I fired another set of high officials.

Alam mo, kasi 'yung iba to my chagrin almost... These were the guys that --- who went back and forth to Davao to convince me to run.

And para bang, "Sige na mayor, tumakbo ka na kasi wala na tayong ibang kandidato na --- to repair the nation, to rehabilitate everything and to stop corruption, blah blah blah and blah blah blah."

Now I --- all along I really thought that... Ayaw ko kasi mawalaan ang aking kapwa tao ko. I don't want to nurture something that's I would be suspicious of anybody in front of me.

Ayaw ko sana 'yung mawalaan ako ng bilib sa kaibigan o kakilala. I hate it because I know you - -- they meant well. But along the way, may papasok talaga na kalokohan ang p***.

'Yun 'yung... My lamentation is, "p***** i** ka bakit ka pumunta sa akin noon na ganun." Nagpapa-corny lang pala tayong lahat dito kasi kung sinabi lang ninyo ng ganun, it's either hindi ako tumakbo or hindi ko kayo tinanggap.

But you know as supporters, early on, even during my mayorship days, they were already around and yet to f*** around. Eh nakakahiya.

Alam ninyo ang ayaw kong mahiya. I can... I'll be frank with you. Patayin mo muna 'yang camera kasi tsismis itong amin dito eh. Kasi sabihin naman, "ah maraming ano." I was honest enough to admit all my faults right at the beginning of the campaign. Sinabi ko...

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